

HOME NEWS

Industrial democracy
experiment on board
Post Office to end

By Felton
Reporter

Government has decided the two year experiment in industrial democracy in the Post Office which began in 1977 is to end.

Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for the Post Office, announced the decision yesterday. The Post Office management and the representatives of the staff on the board of directors will meet next March to discuss the future of the experiment.

Mr Joseph said: "In accordance with our general policy for the Post Office, we are not prepared to renew the legislation which gave rise to the experiment. It is clear that the experiment has not been successful in its aim of bringing about a more equitable distribution of power between management and staff."

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BBC defends
quiz show
criticized as
rubbishy

By Our Arts Reporter

After the Independent Broadcasting Authority's spirited defence of Bruce Forsyth's quiz show, the BBC today takes up the cudgels on behalf of one of its programmes against similar press harrackings.

The programme is the quiz show *Blankety Blank*, which has Terry Wogan as its host and which the BBC says in its annual report, "quickly became as successful as its original counterpart had been for many years in the United States". It is, the BBC says, "a simple piece of harmless fun, skilfully handled by Terry Wogan".

One national critic called it "a rubbishy word-game". To this kind of remark, the BBC Handbook replies: "Television programme-makers can certainly be helped in their task by informed criticism in the press. However, if this criticism gets too strident, it can overshadow actual achievement. The year in which developments marched hand in hand with controversy."

Another complaint dealt with in the report concerns parliamentary broadcasting. "The new service (it began in April last year) was not welcomed in its entirety. We found that the live broadcast of Prime Minister's Questions, when members were at their most vociferous in support and denunciation of ministers, upset some people for whom the occasion lacked decorum and irritated others because they thought it gave a false impression of Parliament as a whole."

BBC Handbook 1980, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA (ES).



A study of the Queen by Bernard Hailstone to be sold in aid of the Artists General Benevolent Fund. It is on exhibition at Harrison McCann, Fitzroy Street, London, until tomorrow.

In brief

Compensation
for manager

An industrial tribunal at Newcastle upon Tyne ended yesterday when Mr Leonard Walker, the dismissed manager of Darlington Football Club, of the Fourth Division, accepted a sum of several thousand pounds compensation.

Mr Walker is the first dismissed manager of an English Football League club to take his case to an industrial tribunal. He alleged the dismissal was unfair.

Nursery schools plea

The National Union of Teachers has welcomed a recent opinion by legal advisers in the Department of Education and Science that local education authorities have a legal duty to provide nursery schooling and have urged Mr Mark Corridge, QC, Secretary of State, to tell them so.

Two die in air crash

Mr Gerald Leonard Gates, aged 52, of Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, and Mr Thomas John Grace, of Tring, Hertfordshire, died when a Cessna 152 crashed on a pleasure flight after taking off from Bonker air park, High Wycombe, yesterday. Two other people were injured.

Island tax held at 20 pc

Guernsey States, the island parliament, yesterday approved budget proposals increasing income tax allowances and holding the standard rate at 20p in £1. Tobacco, drink and petrol prices are unchanged.

Rolls record expected

A 1921 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost could fetch up to £50,000 when it is auctioned at Christie's South Kensington vintage car sale tonight.

Jail visitor
refuses to
resign over
broadcast

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office has suggested to an official prison visitor at Wormwood Scrubs, Mr Jonathan Pollitzer, that he should resign because he broadcast on television about the riot there without the permission of the prison department, thus breaking a rule.

Fifty-four prisoners and 11 officers were injured in the riot. One of the injured was a prisoner whom Mr Pollitzer had been visiting. He told me: "I was shattered to see this non-combatant with seven stitches on his head and he told me he had severe bruising on his back." Mr Pollitzer, a television producer, was on television at the time of the riot. He was asked to resign by the Home Office.

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Bhutto's son
red effect of
blotchy

A student son of Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, hanged allegedly plotting a political coup, told Inner London Crown Court yesterday that he made a hoax telephone call to the Prime Minister because he was angry with his father. Shahbaz Bhutto, aged 25, pleaded not guilty to plotting a telephone call from flat in Lowndes Square, London, saying there was a "red effect" on his face.

Mr Bhutto said his father had been sympathetic towards him in Britain and he had no hostility towards the Government, or Mr James Callaghan, then Prime Minister.

Important telephone calls made or received at the flat in Lowndes Square were not recorded until a trial was adjourned until next month.

Woman stabbed
to death
at university

From Our Correspondent
Reading

A secretary aged 32 was stabbed to death at the University of Reading, Berkshire, yesterday.

A laboratory technician, who went to her rescue, was also stabbed by her attacker.

Mr Christopher Knott, aged 38, of Pinneridge, Burghfield Common, Berkshire, underwent surgery for multiple wounds at Basildon Hospital, Reading. His condition was described as satisfactory after an operation.

The woman, whom police did not name, was married with two children.

Det Supt Len Bradley paid tribute to the "extreme courage" of Mr Knott.

Police said last night that a man was being interviewed about the death of the woman.

Labour invitation to private
schools to define role

By Diana Gaddes
Education Correspondent

The Labour Party has invited the Independent Schools Information Service (Istis) to submit proposals on the future role of independent schools in relation to the comprehensive system.

Mr Tim Devlin, director of Istis, said yesterday that he had hoped that as the independent schools did not want to be tied to any political party a meaningful discussion could have been started with the Labour Party.

"I am therefore surprised that Mr Neil Kinnock, [Opposition spokesman on education] has taken every opportunity to knock the independent schools. His new proposals may win him

the support of the wild left, but they are so blatantly unfair that they will almost certainly contribute to the Labour Party's downfall at the next election", he said.

Mr Kinnock announced at a press conference on Tuesday that a working party of the Labour Party's National Executive Council was considering several options on ways to attack the independent schools.

Mr Kinnock said that it was not a question of malevolence in the Labour Party. It had long been the party's belief that as long as independent schools existed, there would never be a sufficient degree of fairness and objectivity shown toward state schools.

Polytechnic gets
approval again
from inspectorate

Teesside Polytechnic, which was severely criticized last year by the Council for National Academic Awards, has received a favourable report from the council.

In a statement issued yesterday, the CNA, the main degree-awarding body for advanced courses in maintained colleges of higher and further education, said that after a two-day inspection last week, it was able to continue its approval of the polytechnic as a major institution of higher education.

After a routine inspection in May, 1978, the CNA published a report in which it spoke of the "grave situation" at the polytechnic.

Tories 'dare not' forecast
continuing inflation

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government would not succeed in reducing public expenditure for one reason—the ever-increasing demands of social security, Mr Thomas Caulcott, Secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday.

Addressing the annual conference in London of the Town and Country Planning Association, he suggested that the growth in social security payments would not be reflected in next month's public expenditure White Paper. That was because the Government dare not publicly forecast the continuation of inflation, unemployment and recession.

What was certain was that, if the published forecast figures for social security were too low, as they had repeatedly been in the past, the inevitable consequence was that figures for productive public expenditure, on such things as housing, education and transport, would be too high.

They will be too high because the Government will have to reduce them to make room for the increased expenditure on social security which they cannot avoid," he said.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, told the conference that he was appalled at the frustration, waste and economic loss caused by planning delays.

Vineyard bought
by German firm

One of England's largest vineyards, Barnsgate, at Heron's Ghyll, near Uckfield, East Sussex, has been bought by Pteron Ltd, the German wine producers and shippers.

The company, which is thought to have paid more than £250,000 for the 61 acres and a six-bedroom country house, intends to turn the property into its British show place.



It speeds traffic and stops thieves.

It's a radar device, originally developed by Mullard for defence purposes, which is now controlling traffic and protecting property.

It sends out a microwave beam and, using the Doppler principle, compares this with the reflected beam. Any change in the return signal means something has moved.

So, the small boxes on top of temporary traffic lights are 'watching' for cars, allowing them to move on with the minimum delay. Similar components have become the nerves of highly versatile and

effective intruder alarms. There are also automatic door openers, a speedometer for boats and, in the offing, an anti-skid system for aircraft and heavy lorries.

Mullard have, on tap, the widest range anywhere of microwave components. We are the largest producers of electronic components in this country and, right across the board, industry comes to us for some of the most advanced components technology available in the world today.

We, in return, are only too happy

to co-operate fully and closely.

And that's a combined effort to keep things moving smoothly.



Mullard

A vital component in industry.

HOME NEWS

Oxbridge bias denied in recruiting for higher Civil Service

By Peter Hennessy

A Civil Service Commission report published today denies that recruitment procedures for the higher Civil Service favour candidates from privileged social backgrounds who attended independent schools and read for arts degrees at Oxford or Cambridge.

The investigation of the selection mechanism for the administration trainee (AT) grade was conducted by a committee made up of the four Civil Service Commissioners, chaired by Dr Fergus Allen, the First Commissioner, and three outsiders: Professor F. R. Crane, Emeritus Professor of Law at Queen Mary College, London; Miss M. P. Downs, personnel director of Woolworth; and Mr D. MacKenzie, a former occupational psychologist.

The former general sub-committee of the Commons Select Committee on Expenditure complained in 1977 that recruitment figures for the AT grade demonstrated statistical biases in favour of Oxbridge arts graduates and former pupils of public schools.

Dr Allen's committee praises the "inherent fairness" of the Civil Service Selection Board and states that "if only the existing procedure were more widely known and understood, the Oxbridge myth would quickly be dispelled".

It criticises members of the expenditure committee for failing to take up an invitation to visit the selection board to see its procedures in operation.

In a statistical analysis designed to explain the Oxbridge bias, Dr Allen's committee discovered a relationship between successful candidates and those awarded first-class degrees by their universities. Of Oxbridge graduates 14 per cent took firsts compared with 5 per cent elsewhere. The success rate of Ox-

bridge applicants for AT appointments was 18 per cent. Only 5 per cent of those applying from elsewhere were admitted to the grade.

"This finding, in turn, provided much of the explanation for the variation in the success rates of candidates educated at independent and maintained schools, because of the high proportion of the former group who had gone on to Oxford and Cambridge Universities."

A difference remains, however, with former pupils of direct-grant schools emerging as the most successful of the school groups, the report states.

The Allen committee pointed to the relative paucity of Oxbridge graduates in the board, and criticises the expenditure committee for exaggerating the importance given to interviews.

While endorsing the general thrust of present practices, the report suggests some improvements, including:

Adaptability and emergency should be given greater weight.

Candidates with a "forceful and thorough personality" should be welcomed provided they can work with others.

The commission should establish greater contacts with staff and students at non-Oxbridge universities and in polytechnics.

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Man who took bomb photograph bound over

A newspaper photographer, who was arrested after taking a photograph of an army bomb disposal officer at work, was cleared at Leeds Magistrates' Court yesterday of obstructing the police.

By F. D. L. Loy, the stipendiary magistrate, found Lawrence Robert Mercer, aged 52, a photographer with the Yorkshire Post, guilty of acting in a manner calculated to obstruct the police. Mr Mercer, of Meadow Gardens, Bardsey, Leeds, who had denied both charges, was bound over for £50 to keep the peace for 12 months.

When the hearing opened last week Mr Loy was told by the prosecution that it was not a case involving the freedom of the press.

Mr Richard Odey, for the prosecution, said bomb disposal officers were called last June to the Post Office sorting office in Aire Street, Leeds, to investigate a suspect package. One of the officers asked the police to tell photographers not to take pictures because the officers might be in personal danger if they were published.

Mr Mercer is alleged to have said: "I can take any photographs I like. But if you don't want them published you can put a D Notice on them."

Mr Mercer left to speak to his editor and then returned and took a photograph. He was arrested.

Mr Loy said: "No one would wish to limit the freedom of the press or to hamper them in any way at all. But to carry out their task they have to remain within the law. It seems a tragedy in this case that the defendant behaved rashly."

Later, Mr Robin Smith, representing Mr Mercer, said an appeal would be considered.

'Education department's restrictions over pay and grading limit efficiency'

Arts Council is in a straightjacket, working party says

By Kenneth Gossling, Arts Reporter

A working party report on the organization and procedures of the Arts Council says today that the council is "clearly not an effective agency of its own operation".

That, it says, is because of restrictions placed on it by the Department of Education and Science over pay and grading.

Criticizing the department for tying in the pay rates of the council's officers with those of the Civil Service, the report says that restrictions constitute a serious limitation on the council's efficiency.

"The salaries represented by many of the grades accorded to Arts Council posts are demonstrably below those available elsewhere to people offering the professional skills and experience required. In some cases the Council's posts compared unfavourably with positions of obviously less responsibility."

The response to public advertisement was sometimes inadequate, it was pointed out, and the council's secretarial grades had fallen substantially behind the average levels for good secretaries in industry and commerce.

"Thus we have found the somewhat Gilbertian position that regional arts associations can sometimes offer higher salaries to officers than can the Arts Council itself. To some extent the continuing high level in turnover of staff (27 per cent in 1978) can be attributed to this situation."

In view of the working party there was "no change in the existing procedures more important than freeing the council from the inhibiting straightjacket of controls to which we have referred."

Provided it was subject to certain constraints, there was no reason why it should not be allowed to manage its own affairs.

Also recommended is the upgrading of the post of Secretary-General, which was underpaid for the substantial responsibilities it now carried, from the equivalent of Civil Service deputy secretary (E16,714) to deputy secretary (E20,316). The post should be redrafted Director-General.

The council is to take up with Mr Norman St John-Steveland, minister with responsibility for arts, the question of greater general flexibility in matters of pay and conditions.

The working party, which comprised Lord Hutchinson, QC, Mr John Manduall, Mr Howard Newby and Mr John Sainsbury, was set up 16 months ago to review the formal and working relationship between the council, its advisers and its senior officers.

Many of its recommendations have already been accepted by the council, some have been referred to the minister and others are still under consideration.

It has been agreed, for example, that there should be a wider "band" for members of the council: the council will ask the minister to consider extending the period of members' service from three to four years, with an option to renew for a further two; and endorses the working party's view that its chairman should receive an honorarium.

The council agrees with the report's finding that sub-committees should be carefully reviewed, and where necessary paid advisers or assessors should be employed.

The working party reserves its most serious criticisms not for the council but for the department. It has become aware, it said, through a great deal of the evidence submitted,

of a sense of malaise and a low level of morale among many of the staff.

"We believe that the poor morale is more significantly attributable to the problems of pay and grading, inadequacies of the management structure and of communication and a lack of an agreed and understood policy accompanied by a lack of direction from the top."

The council as a whole, commanding a high degree of loyalty and commitment, still managed to do a remarkable job.

Of the department's role in the council's affairs, the report says: "The council is important because its own evaluation of the posts is so often rejected by the DES."

"We find it unacceptable that in a number of cases, involving senior posts as well as middle management, it has taken several years of argument with the DES to secure agreement for straightforward promotions involving one step up the grading structure."

Sir Roy Shaw, Secretary-General of the Arts Council, said the implementation of the recommendations would mean "streamlining of the organization. We are always conscious that most of our money must go to the clients," he said.

"Less than 5 per cent administration."

Sir Roy said that morale had improved. Frustrations had diminished was a fact that the council was trying to do a job with other resources and do much more money.

Ulster cost-cutting: Northern Ireland Dept of Education is seeing substantial cut in the cost of the Arts Council. Northern Ireland Dept of Public Accounts, Humberby writes).

The department said urged a reduction below the level of 36.1 per cent in 1977.

It had pointed out, urged disquiet expressed by a committee at the level of the Ulster Orchestra received £273,000 in 1977 and earned less than £22,000 in 1978.

The department said asked the council to level of public subsidy, consideration would be to a possible amalgamation of the Ulster Orchestra, BBC Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Department of Finance Memorandum dated 1979-80, Public Accounts, 1979-80, Office, Command 774.

Complaints on airline smokers rise

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

Complaints about in-flight services to the Air Transport Users Committee doubled in the 12 months to this September partly because of difficulties over the smoking and non-smoking sections of aircraft.

Of the total of 353 complaints dealt with by the committee, the largest number, 78, concerned flight delays and cancellations, with in-flight service and baggage handling at 36 each. The committee's annual report, published yesterday, says.

In the preceding 12 months the total of complaints dealt with was 286.

"Difficulties include the constant variation of the smoker/non-smoker passenger ratio, differing air circulation patterns, and the problem of smoke drift," the report says.

"The check-in point at some foreign airports do not co-operate over the allocation of non-smoking seats. Aircraft cabin staff have no powers to stop an obstinate smoker who has been given a seat in a non-smoking area."

The committee continues to be unable to persuade the British Airports Authority to display its address at the airports and most airlines continue to refuse efforts to have the committee's literature carried in their seat pockets.

Mr Jean Barker, the chairman of the committee, said yesterday: "None of them really likes to ask for complaints."

Despite that, the committee says it has established good relations with most British airlines and can normally get a fast and reasonable response from them.

That was not so with all foreign airlines, although Air France, Lufthansa and KLM are commended for their efficiency and fairness. "With some airlines, it is an achievement to get a reply at all."

In an appeal to calm the nerves of airline passengers, the report says that in the case of delays "a soothing sound from an airport official, a sympathetic suggestion from an airline employee, a reassuring word from a tour operator's courier, will not remove the problem, but it may do wonders for the passengers' morale."

The committee has called upon all air companies to improve that aspect of their communications.

Air Transport Users Committee Annual Report (Civil Aviation Authority, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos; £1).

Actress on camel broke back in fall, judge told

Dorothy Tutin, the actress, fell off a camel's back and broke her own back at a charity fund-raising event, Mr Justice Cantley was told in the High Court yesterday.

Miss Tutin, aged 49, was among a group of theatrical people at the event who were told at the last minute that they were expected to take part in a camel race, Mrs Clare Triton, her counsel, said.

The event turned into pandemonium and chaos, she added.

It ended in tragedy for Miss Tutin after her mount bolted, she did her best to stay on, but another loose camel ran up and her animal swerved. Mrs Triton continued: "This was the straw on the camel's back."

The actress fell off, fracturing two vertebrae.

Miss Tutin, a National Theatre and television performer, who claims that her injury has forced her to change her style of acting, is suing Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd, owners of the camels.

She claims that the accident was due to their negligence, which is denied.

The accident happened in December, 1976, during the televised National Show Jumping Championships at Olympia. Mrs Triton said the camels were already rather horrified at the size of the camels and thought they looked ill turned out. In the true stage tradition, however, they decided that the show had to go on.

In the first race, a video recording which was shown to the court, Imogen Hassall nearly fell from her camel, she said.

It was in the next race that the dismounting Miss Tutin was injured. She had to spend a month in bed. She later managed to fulfil a television contract for the series *Sister Dora*, but because of her injury was forced to adapt her acting style.

Leslie Crowther, the actor, said in reply to Mr Adrian Whitfield, for Chipperfields, who deny that the camels were frisky or dangerous, said: "Dorothy's camel had bolted and was out of control."

He was unaware the beasts were racing, and he knew there was going to be a spectacle, but thought the camels would be led around.

He agreed he had hung on to his camel "in the tall area" and that he had caused a lot of laughter. "That's what I landed up," he said, "so I thought I would stay there."

The hearing continues today.



The Dean of St Paul's, the Very Rev Alan Webster (left), after he received the freedom of the City of London from Sir Peter Gadsden, the Lord Mayor.

Electricity watchdog 'rendered ineffective'

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

A harshly critical report on the performance of the London Electricity Board, published today, claims that consumer consultative councils in the regionalized industries are ineffective because they lack adequate resources and their job properly.

The report was commissioned from the Public Interest Research Centre by the London Electricity Consumers' Council and the Electricity Consumers' Council. It was intended to suggest ways in which the London Electricity Board's activities might be more effectively monitored.

The role of all consumer consultative councils in the regionalized industries is now under review by the Government. The report's author, Mr Charles Medawar, suggests that the Government intends to limit the power of councils which have always been denied resources the Consumer Operation said they must have when nationalization took place 20 years ago.

The report says there is a "startling" lack of information in the London Electricity Board's annual reports, which accounts about areas in which its performance is alleged to be inadequate.

It says: "The area electricity in general report on irrelevant information, some consultative council supply little useful info. The report alleges excess unnecessary secrecy in the industry."

It reproduces extracts the Electricity Council membership training course by the LEB and other and says the selling are "profoundly anti-consumer."

The report asks what is to be done to a "savage enterprise" being engaged in hoodwinked humiliating the public, some, possibly causing economic deprivation as a result of the work of consultative councils in which the industry is now under review by the Government. The report's author, Mr Charles Medawar, suggests that the Government intends to limit the power of councils which have always been denied resources the Consumer Operation said they must have when nationalization took place 20 years ago.

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Prince explains how he likes to be kissed

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Girls who kiss the Prince of Wales enjoy it more because he is a non-smoker, he said on his visit to Nottingham which ended yesterday. He said he had been kissed by three girls in the city, one particularly aggressively, which gave me enormous pleasure.

"It is just as well that I do not smoke, otherwise her reaction might have been quite different."

Recently he had been given a tee-shirt saying "Kiss a non-smoker and taste the difference."

'Modest' nuclear strategy suggested for Africans

By Our Arts Reporter

Africa should abandon the idea of promoting itself as a nuclear-free zone except in terms of keeping outside powers and external bases at bay, Professor Ali Mazrui said in the final Reith Lecture on BBC Radio 4 last night.

"Those African countries which signed the non-proliferation treaty should review their positions," he said, "and consider setting up a continental nuclear consortium allied to a strategy of developing a small military nuclear capability, first in Nigeria and later on in Zaïre and black-ruled South Africa."

Royal luncheon boycotted by Lord Mayor

A royal luncheon was boycotted yesterday by the Lord Mayor of Manchester because, he claimed, he had been given an inferior position at the table.

The luncheon was at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, and the Duchess of Kent, the president, was guest of honour.

Mr Gerard Fitzsimmons decided not to attend when he saw the seating plan. He drove to the college with the Duchess, explained the situation, and then returned to the town hall.

He said later that the Lord Mayor took precedence over all persons except members of the Royal Family but the seating plan put the Duchess between the principal and the chairman of the college.

Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, college chairman, said: "All the arrangements made have been in accordance with previously established practice. These have always proved acceptable to the lord mayor of the day."

Author is grateful Blunt affair not kept a secret

By Trevor Fishlock

Mr Andrew Boyle, the journalist who unearthed Professor Anthony Blunt, said yesterday he was grateful that Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, had not brushed the scandal under the carpet.

"With a nod to the libel laws and 'our British obsession with secrecy' he said he might easily have been in prison rather than at a Foyles literary lunch.

Previous governments might not have spoken about the Blunt affair in the round and positive fashion," he said, "but Mrs Thatcher, and for Mr Boyle it might so easily have gone the other way."

Mr Boyle, whose book *The Climate of Treason*, precipitated the affair, was "the person who did the dirty work," he said, and it came off.

"I dug fairly deep. I was aware of being in devil's country, of double standards and mixed values. It was difficult to write for I am not an historian; I am a sort of bawler of rough stone."

Coroner hears how Fastnet yachtsmen died

Two yachtsmen comp the Fastnet race were away and drowned while life raft capsized and two, the Plymouth corollid yesterday. He rec finding of death by mure.

Mr John Robert Puck, 42, a dockworker of Brinkley, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, Mr Peter James Evers, 34, a Ford Motor Co supervisor of Kettering, Billerica, Essex, were away and disappeared.

They were crewing it Trophic, whose skipper, owner, Mr Alan Bartle, she lost her rudder in t 10 storm on August 14.

The eight crew memb to the life raft, which (Mr Simon Fleming, of Walk, Thames Ditton, was washed away but cued later by a Dutch de However, before a he and destroyer could re raft, Mr Robin Bowyer, 42, another crewman, of ton Road, Crickwood, 1 died.

Have a care for the eighties

I ask you to give a generous Christmas gift to get MHA's exciting plans for the eighties off to a good start.

The Rt. Hon. George Thomas M.P.

...as one of MHA's patrons, it is good to be associated with the 'Have a care for the eighties' campaign, and I do hope that not only will friends support the MHA with financial help, but that they will also give their support and prayers for the continuing work of the organisation."

"HAVE A CARE FOR THE EIGHTIES"

— the MHA campaign to double its caring capacity by 1990. Your gifts and continuing interest will enable this dream to become a reality

Please send a generous Christmas gift to The Rt. Hon. George Thomas M.P., Methodist Homes for the Aged, Dept. T, Freepost, London SW1P 3SD

METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED

11 Tufnell Street Westminster London SW1P 3SD
General Secretary Mr Brian J. Cullen M.B.E., Pastoral Secretary Rev Norman J. Richardson

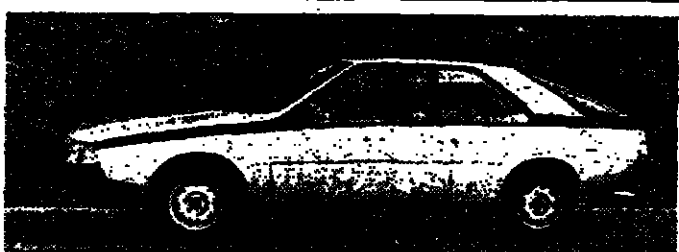
Mr Docherty to try crutches

Mr Tommy Docherty, manager of Queen's Park Rangers Football Club, will be allowed out of bed today to try his crutches, Mr David O'Connell, administrator at Stockport Infirmary, said yesterday. He would probably not be discharged from hospital before Saturday or Sunday.

Mr Docherty, aged 51, suffered a leg injury when he was attacked on a train on Saturday.

Christmas posting dates

The last posting date for inland parcels, second-class letters and cards to be delivered by Christmas is Monday, December 17, and December 19 for first-class letters, the Post Office said yesterday.



New Renault 19: The Renault company yesterday announced a new mid-range coupé, the Fuego, to be launched in France in March and in the rest of Europe, including Britain, the following autumn (our Motoring Correspondent writes).

Friends of Earth seek nuclear review

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

An unusual type of public examination of the safety aspects of pressurised water reactors has been proposed to the Department of Energy by Friends of the Earth after reports that the Government intended to build a demonstration nuclear power station using that type of reactor.

A letter delivered to Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, suggests that such a decision could strain public confidence in the safety assessments and regulatory controls in Britain.

There are three main reasons for that argument: the accident at the Three Mile Island power station, Harrisburg, the earlier history of pressurised water reactors; and the shift away from established British designs based on gas-cooled reactors.

In addition, Friends of the Earth believes that any public confidence is even more difficult to achieve when essen-

tial safety documents are treated as secret.

For example, one report not available to the public is described as a generic PWR safety analysis. Friends of the Earth says that a published summary of that report does not contain information to show that fears about safety of the PWR have been allayed, nor even fully appreciated.

It further suggests that it must be common knowledge that the safety analysis (made on data gathered up to the end of 1977) rests on technical information obtained from the United States, and the validity of that is a subject of controversy in America.

The details of that controversy are not readily available in the United Kingdom; hence the proposal for a public examination.

According to Friends of the Earth, 100 issues in the generic safety study are unresolved. They are issues over which the Presidential inquiry into the Three Mile Island accident criticized the United States Nuclear Regulatory Agency for not resolving before licensing reactors.

Other flaws that have become apparent in the procedures for safety assessment are described to support "a case for a public, critical review."

That argument is followed by an offer to help the Department of Energy to arrange a suitable review, of the full generic PWR safety report.

For this purpose Friends of the Earth recommends the services of three senior engineers from American industry who have formed a consultancy named MHB and who have considerable experience of light water reactors.

They are completing a study in Italy broadly along the lines proposed for Britain.

Libel damages for MP in race relations case

Mr Anthony David Steen, Conservative MP for Liverpool Wavertree, accepted substantial damages in the High Court yesterday in settlement of his libel action against three officials of an immigrants' welfare organisation.

He had sued Mr Ian Martin, Mr Michael Dunnett and Mr Vishnu Sharma, members of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, who had alleged in a press release that he had attended only a third of the 1977 meetings of a parliamentary committee on race relations and immigration.

Mr Geoffrey Shaw, for Mr Steen, told Mr Justice Canley that the assertion, repeated in *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Sunday Express*, was defamatory and could have seriously injured Mr Steen's reputation as an MP.

In fact, Mr Steen attended 21 of the 28 meetings of the committee, receiving and studying a full record of those proceedings which took place in his absence. He had also made a substantial contribution, having travelled with the committee to India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The defendants now realised there was no foundation for the allegation.

Mr Michael Ingham, for the officials, said the error was because of a confusion between Mr Steen and another committee member.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN LIBYA?

On the 31st Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, we draw the attention of international public opinion, and all interested parties, to the following violations of the Declaration by the regime of Muammar Gheddafi:

1. Execution of people for political reasons without public trials.
2. Imprisonment of persons without charge trials.
3. The practice of torture on prisoners detainees.
4. The conduct of searches of homes and persons without regard to legal procedures.
5. Arbitrary confiscation of property without compensation.
6. Suppression of private freedom and freedom of speech, and the Press.

These are only examples of Human Rights violations being committed daily by Gheddafi's regime. We call upon all those who champion and camp for the noble cause of Human Rights to denounce the existing Libyan regime, demand the release of political prisoners, and manifest solidarity through all means in the struggle of our people to establish Human Rights in Libya.

Committee for the Defence of Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Libya.

WEST EUROPE

Gaulist
'Charge of
Light
Brigade'From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Dec 12

The Council of Ministers, at its weekly meeting, today authorized M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, to pledge the responsibility of his Government on the second reading of the Budget and Social Security Bills in the National Assembly. This follows the decision of the Gaulists to abstain from voting.

As the opposition is certain to table the ritual motions of censure, the autumn session, which was to have ended on December 12, will probably have to be extended by several hours. After that, the Government will have a free hand for more than three months.

This will be the third and fourth times within two and a half months that M. Barre has resorted to Article 49 of the Constitution to push through what he regards as essential policy measures against the opposition of Gaulists in the Government majority.

The Gaulists are indulging in a charge of the Light Brigade, without advantage, against what they have come to regard as the batteries of the enemy, while refusing to vote with the opposition to bring the Government down.

Their position is accurately summed up in a cartoon by Chevez in *Le Monde* today which shows M. Jacques Chirac charging the Prime Minister's battery as he sticks to his gun and disdainfully looks at a pile of cannon balls marked "constitution".

M. Barre has made no attempt to conceal his batteries. He told the Lyons daily *Rhone-Alpes* in an interview: "I am sure the country would severely condemn any group of (the) parliamentary majority which, in the difficult circumstances our country is going through, brought into use the 'good choice' of 1978 (the election result) and thus exposed it to instability and adventure".

He reiterated the threat of dissolution to which many Gaulist MPs, who owe their seats to Giscard support, are not insensitive.

"If a parliamentary majority failed, the Government, essentially, has lost its legitimacy. It is the people who would decide".

Restyled Herr Strauss
loses much of his colourFrom Patricia Clough
Bonn, Dec 12

This week has seen the appearance in Bonn of a restyled Herr Franz Josef Strauss—restrained, matter of fact, visibly aware of his new responsibilities as opposition candidate for the chancellorship.

The occasion for what amounted to his real debut as candidate for Chancellor in the Bundestag in which he launched into a general attack on Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, and his Government. He accused them of errors, shortcomings and failures on a wide range of policies and declared them incapable of running the country.

His style, however, was oddly restrained compared with his flamboyant and often violent attacks in the past. He stuck for the main part to an obviously carefully prepared text rather than permitting himself the colourful and sometimes outrageous off-the-cuff remarks

which have made him the live-wire parliamentarian in the country.

Herr Schmidt's retort that he had offered no alternative policies of his own did not hold water for long. The following day Herr Strauss held a press conference in which he outlined his plans with such seriousness and devotion to detail that his audience many of whom had come to see Herr Strauss rather than hear him, about taxes, soon turned glassy-eyed with boredom.

Previously, with his Bavarian Christian Social Union firmly behind him, he could afford to be impulsive, emotional, often outspokenly right-wing.

But now he is well aware that he cannot hope to succeed in the election unless he can gain the support of the more liberal-minded Christian Democratic voters.

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Euro-MPs still ready to throw out
1980 budget after dramatic
peace initiative by EEC ministersFrom Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Dec 12

The EEC's Council of Ministers met here today in an unprecedented bid to appease the European Parliament so that it will not throw out the Community's draft budget for 1980.

The mere fact that the meeting was taking place was itself a measure of the enhanced status of the assembly, which was elected directly for the first time in June this year.

The first round of discussions between the council and a parliamentary delegation led by Madame Simone Veil, the assembly's president, left Euro-MPs firm in their resolve to reject the budget.

The Parliament was asking for restoration of some £430m in non-agricultural spending cut out last month by EEC budget ministers. More importantly, the Parliament wanted member states to agree to an increased tax on milk producers by a specified date next year.

The ministers were prepared to issue a statement promising to bear in mind the Parliament's views when member states meet next spring to fix EEC farm

prices and decide on related measures to reduce agricultural costs.

But Euro-MPs made it clear that they wanted a specific commitment from member states to the Parliament, in order to establish its right as an institution to have a say in determining the level of farm spending.

Several member states, France and Denmark among them, are extremely reluctant to concede this principle.

National governments have always insisted that farm spending, which consumes 75 per cent of the budget, is outside parliamentary control.

At far as increasing non-farm spending is concerned, mainly on such things as regional industrial and social aid, member states were unwilling to offer more than a maximum of £130m, well below what the assembly demanded.

The Parliament's budget committee has prepared a full back plan if it should prove impossible tomorrow to muster the two-thirds majority needed for budget rejection. It would involve the Parliament's voting

back into the budget all the cuts made by member states.

The Parliament can do this by a three-fifths majority, but such an increase would be challenged by member states as taking total non-farm spending above the ceiling set each year by the European Commission.

If the budget is rejected, spending next year would have to be held to this year's level. But the Council of Ministers would still have the right to vote some increases in farm spending.

British dilemma: Ministers are wondering what attitude to take towards British Euro-MPs and their determination to take part in the rejection of the budget (Michael Hargrove writes).

While the decision gives support to the Government's position over British contributions to the EEC, ministers are expressing private concern at the additional powers that may accrue to Euro-MPs. In the long term, ministers strongly believe, the real power must reside with the Council of Ministers.

Another option was to do nothing at all and "waffle" around the problem. The third was to have the courage to try for a settlement, despite the bad omens of previous failures.

The point many critics seemed to miss is that each of these strategies was full of risks. The risk in recognizing the Parliament was that the EEC would have broken up the Commonwealth, alienated most of its friends, and suffered an incalculable commercial loss.

The risk in the second course of action was that more and more people would be killed and southern Africa would become a battleground. The risk in the third course—going for a settlement—was that it would not work.

As Lord Carrington saw it, this course, which involved Britain accepting its responsibility for the great merit of being the right thing to do in a moral sense.

The ceasefire proposals have been worked out with great care, to try to meet the genuine concerns of both sides. Clearly, no one can compel them to observe a ceasefire. But the essence of the final proposals is that each side can see that, if it does what is required of it,

the other side will have an incentive to fulfil its own part. In the first stage, if the Rhodesian forces disengage and retire to their bases, the Patriotic Front knows that its own forces can assemble in safety. In the second phase, if they then assemble they will become legal forces, and their food and other essential needs will be supplied by the British authorities.

If the Rhodesians see that this assembly has taken place, they will remain on the rampage. "Each side," as the proposals put it, "can be informed of the other's movements, and there can be no misunderstanding of each other's intentions".

Many things can go wrong in this process and probably will. It is not really a gamble, it is the best risk in the circumstances.

Lord Carrington, keeping his fingers crossed yesterday at a Brussels meeting.

By David Spenser
Diplomatic Correspondent

Despite talk of Lord Carrington's "final gamble" in sending Lord Soames to Rhodesia, his diplomacy is far more calculated than it appears. The ceasefire talks, which continued behind the scenes yesterday, are not a gamble, but the last stage in a very carefully judged strategy.

When people talk about the risk of something going wrong, the Foreign Secretary would be the last to deny it. As he sees it, 101 things could go wrong. Every day is going to bring its own risks. What is extraordinary is that the settlement has got so far—hence his emphasis on keeping the momentum going.

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British farmers looking for
substantial price risesBy Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

British farmers yesterday called for substantial price rises and a further devaluation of the "green pound". They said that the £150m annual increase in their returns resulting from the latest devaluation would be swamped up by a 21 per cent wage rise to farm workers.

Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "The union is encouraged that the Government has recognized the current problems facing producers, but further measures are necessary".

The union wants increases on all products governed by EEC farm policy at the annual Community price-fixing next year. It rejects the Government's policy of seeking a freeze on EEC milk prices, which is a rise of about 2p a pint

early next year on bottled milk.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday that the Government had tried to analyse the difficulties of British agriculture and to arrest its decline. "That will continue to be our objective," he said.

He said the Government's aim of the 5 per cent devaluation of the green pound was to "boost the resources available to British agriculture".

The devaluation was opposed by British food processors and consumer groups yesterday on the grounds that it would increase food prices when farmers' incomes were already high enough.

The European Community Group, which represents 22 consumer organizations, said that the devaluation would add 25p a week to the shopping bill of a typical family.

Somebody claiming to speak on EEA's behalf telephoned the house of Senator Ruperez at about 6.30 am and told his brother, Ignacio, that he had been released on the outskirts of Burgos.

After being brought back to Madrid, Senator Ruperez went to the Moncloa Palace for a private meeting with Señor Adolfo Suárez, the Prime Minister. At his home he was reunited with his Dutch wife, Geraldine, and his baby daughter.

Among those who made public appeals for his release were the Pope, Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian guerrilla leader, Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mother Teresa.

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ETA frees
Madrid
politicianFrom Harry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 12

The Basque secessionist organization ETA today freed a senior politician who had been held for 31 days in a demand for the release of five imprisoned ETA militants and a public inquiry into allegations of police torture.

There was no official acknowledgement of any deal, but the release of Señor Javier Ruperez, an MP and chief spokesman of the ruling centre Democratic Union, was believed to mark the successful conclusion of secret bargaining between ETA and unofficial representatives of the Government.

Señor Ruperez was seized on November 11 while driving from his home in Madrid to a hotel in the city. He was freed just before 6 am today on a highway near Burgos, and identified himself after walking into a petrol station.

A doctor who examined him said: "Javier Ruperez is in perfect condition—and no indication of illness was discovered".

He suffers only from a slight complaint in his left leg.

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OVERSEAS

Carrington
strategy
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carefullyBy David Spenser
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As Lord Carrington saw it, this course, which involved Britain accepting its responsibility for the great merit of being the right thing to do in a moral sense.

The ceasefire proposals have been worked out with great care, to try to meet the genuine concerns of both sides. Clearly, no one can compel them to observe a ceasefire. But the essence of the final proposals is that each side can see that, if it does what is required of it,

the other side will have an incentive to fulfil its own part. In the first stage, if the Rhodesian forces disengage and retire to their bases, the Patriotic Front knows that its own forces can assemble in safety. In the second phase, if they then assemble they will become legal forces, and their food and other essential needs will be supplied by the British authorities.

If the Rhodesians see that this assembly has taken place, they will remain on the rampage. "Each side," as the proposals put it, "can be informed of the other's movements, and there can be no misunderstanding of each other's intentions".

Many things can go wrong in this process and probably will. It is not really a gamble, it is the best risk in the circumstances.

Lord Carrington, keeping his fingers crossed yesterday at a Brussels meeting.

By David Spenser
Diplomatic Correspondent

Despite talk of Lord Carrington's "final gamble" in sending Lord Soames to Rhodesia, his diplomacy is far more calculated than it appears. The ceasefire talks, which continued behind the scenes yesterday, are not a gamble, but the last stage in a very carefully judged strategy.

When people talk about the risk of something going wrong, the Foreign Secretary would be the last to deny it. As he sees it, 101 things could go wrong. Every day is going to bring its own risks. What is extraordinary is that the settlement has got so far—hence his emphasis on keeping the momentum going.

There were three options the Government could have taken when it came to power last May. One was to go with the mood of the Conservative Party, as expressed by the Prime Minister himself, which was to recognize Bishop Muzorewa's government whatever the rest of the world said.

Another option was to do nothing at all and "waffle" around the problem. The third was to have the courage to try for a settlement, despite the bad omens of previous failures.



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SPORT

Football

O'Hare finds an extra gear as Forest drive on relentlessly

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent
Nottingham Forest 3
West Ham 0

Whether it was the irresistible pressure of ending a run at Liverpool in the semi-final round or the fear of losing a favourite item of silverware, Nottingham Forest decided their Football League Cup by the best means at the separated City Ground last night. They persistently attacked West Ham, took the lead in the 10th minute and, after an exhausting replay before they finally broke through, but when one goal came two more quickly followed.

Reversing the situation of the week before, Forest took the game to West Ham from the start and, after a period of the most ever deteriorating conditions, played some much improved football. The West Ham goal was the centre of muddy mud, and the referee ruled that the ball had to be struck firmly, but it was not easily controlled. Francis transcended the problems, as one would expect of such a fine player but more surprisingly the much less mobile O'Hare was fully involved in midfield, created space for himself and scored the crucial first goal.

The fact that Bowles had been brought in from Queen's Park Rangers, and will soon threaten O'Hare's position, probably had something to do with it.

Francis kept his feet excellently under the pressure of the pitch, and he was forced to a good save from Parkes early in the game and offered Bowler a

defence-splitting pass to chase a few minutes later. Bowler's shot went wide but served to show West Ham the pressure they would be under. Bowler's disappointment was almost given a painful further twist when he brought down Allen dangerously near the penalty area. Stewart's free kick pierced the defensive wall but Salton scrambled the ball away for a corner.

West Ham attacked when they could, which was rarely. Forest had all of the significant opportunities and even Francis was guilty of failing to take them in the first 50 minutes. A breakaway marked by Salton ended with O'Hare shooting into a well defended goalmouth. As the ball rebounded, O'Hare hit the post, and finally Francis was unable to make the most of the confusion, kicking high over the bar.

Francis did his best to involve Robertson on the slightly less sticky wing but West Ham defence was stubbornly in place. Their own conductor of movements, Brooking, found the conditions virtually impossible, trampled through the mud without the ball and the occasional hint of the unexpected. Doing the ordinary things was difficult enough for most players on this pitch.

Bowler's powerful shot from 25 yards was turned away by Parkes and Bowler sent another shot over the top when Francis cleverly created a gap opening by Underwood, but being called upon to make a serious save after the twenty-second minute.

If Forest had been able to finish the attacks they created extra time would have been avoided but that was their only real failing on a night when they were forced to play a better touch returned. The feeling continued until, after



O'Hare: scorer of Forest's crucial first goal.

100 arduous minutes, Bowler centred hard into the penalty area and Bowler, who had played so bravely, now clung to the ball but let it slip and O'Hare bundled it over the bar. Bowler's last-minute set-up for a 25-yard shot that scored into the top of the net and the second half of extra time O'Neill swept away on the right wing, cut in and curled a delicate shot past Parkes. Nottingham Forest 3, West Ham 0. Scorers: O'Hare, Bowler, G. Salton. Referee: F. Gray. A. Bowler, G. Salton, T. Francis, J. Robertson.

Traditional strengths give North the upper hand

By Stuart Jones

The north's march on the South has been over for three years now but they have overruled their schoolboy rivals at Rotherham and they did so again yesterday morning, although their own tactical play almost undermined them. They kept two of their sharpest weapons under dust-sheets until the interval and it was only when they were unveiled that the North took command.

Before noon the southern strategy proved successful. Using a double spearhead, they brought Brummo, usually a sweeper, out into the open and there he was as exposed as his goalkeeper, Palmer. It was as well that the shooting of the southern marksmen, Wyatt and Andrews, seemed to have been a distraction, as they were behind Palmer than his net.

But armed with their traditional strengths of vision (apparent even in dense fog two years ago) and understanding, the North had the afternoon to their own. Mann started most of the attack from left back and took a long, vocal role even if he was not involved. Stretton controlled midfield and up front lay Wood. The scores: a remarkable 45 goals for Rotherham this season.

Significantly, all three were involved in the opening goal—a sweeping move down the left, a

long cross and there was Stretton, who was a territory to thump it unceremoniously home. His fierce, foot-footed blow signalled the South's demise, although McKenna, the substitute goalkeeper and one of six to travel down from Blackburn, did his best to keep them alive with two saves.

The end of the battle was in sight, anyway, when the South were finally finished off by Howarth and McKenna's cross. Their brave resistance owed much to the influence of Robinson, a South player, who was a double spearhead, they brought Brummo, usually a sweeper, out into the open and there he was as exposed as his goalkeeper, Palmer. It was as well that the shooting of the southern marksmen, Wyatt and Andrews, seemed to have been a distraction, as they were behind Palmer than his net.

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Oxford City welcome Moore as manager

Bobby Moore, who captained England in their World Cup success in 1966 and won a record number of 108 international caps, has been given a two-year contract by the Oxford City, of the Isthmian League. He captained West Ham United to their FA Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup success in 1964 and in the following year he returned to Wembley again in 1975 with Fulham but ended on a losing side.

Tony Rosser, the chairman of Free Newspapers Ltd, announced the deal only 10 days after taking over the club. It is Mr Moore's first managerial appointment. Earlier this week he rejected a coaching position with Manchester City.

Mr Rosser, a former chairman of Oxford United, said: "Last week Free Newspapers decided to take over the club. It is Mr Moore's first managerial appointment. Earlier this week he rejected a coaching position with Manchester City."

The precarious profession of football management, however, claimed more than four years ago—Bobby Campbell, of Bristol Rovers, and Ken Houghton, of Hull City, both announced they were leaving the game. Mr Campbell took over as manager two years ago. He was given a month to prove himself, but he failed to do so and was dismissed. Mr Houghton, a former Hull player who became manager of the club, was dismissed in two years. The others were John Kaye and Bobby Collins, who were dismissed after a short time.

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Results yesterday

League Cup
Fifth round replay
Nottingham Forest (H) 3
West Ham (A) 0

Scottish League Cup
Final (replay)
Aberdeen (H) 3
Dundee (A) 1

UEFA Cup: Third round (second leg). Nottingham Forest (H) 3, Tottenham (A) 1. Liverpool (H) 2, Bayern Munich (A) 1. Manchester United (H) 2, Ajax (A) 1. Arsenal (H) 2, Real Madrid (A) 1. Chelsea (H) 2, Juventus (A) 1. Inter Milan (H) 2, Roma (A) 1. Lazio (H) 2, Fiorentina (A) 1. AC Milan (H) 2, Borussia Dortmund (A) 1. Bayern Munich (H) 2, Schalke 04 (A) 1. Borussia Dortmund (H) 2, Werder Bremen (A) 1. Werder Bremen (H) 2, Hamburg (A) 1. Hamburg (H) 2, Frankfurt (A) 1. Frankfurt (H) 2, Cologne (A) 1. Cologne (H) 2, Stuttgart (A) 1. Stuttgart (H) 2, Middlesbrough (A) 1. Middlesbrough (H) 2, Ipswich (A) 1. Ipswich (H) 2, Norwich (A) 1. Norwich (H) 2, QPR (A) 1. QPR (H) 2, Reading (A) 1. Reading (H) 2, Millwall (A) 1. Millwall (H) 2, Luton (A) 1. Luton (H) 2, Barnsley (A) 1. Barnsley (H) 2, Blackpool (A) 1. Blackpool (H) 2, Grimsby (A) 1. Grimsby (H) 2, Peterborough (A) 1. Peterborough (H) 2, Shrewsbury (A) 1. Shrewsbury (H) 2, Exeter (A) 1. Exeter (H) 2, Torquay (A) 1. 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Report December 12-1979

Decision that Italian families were 'intentionally homeless' upheld

Capacity of a trade union to protect its members

Falco v Crawley Borough Council
Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bridge, Sir David Cairns

A Court of Appeal decision to uphold a local authority's decision to refuse to provide accommodation for two young Italian families, where the authority had said they were "intentionally homeless", was upheld today by the Court of Appeal. The decision was made in *Falco v Crawley Borough Council*, a case which concerned the housing of two young Italian families, where the authority had said they were "intentionally homeless".

The Court of Appeal, consisting of Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bridge, and Sir David Cairns, was divided 2-1 in its decision. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge, who were in the majority, upheld the decision of the Crawley Borough Council to refuse to provide accommodation for the two young Italian families.

The two families, who were from Italy, had been living in the Crawley area for some time. They had been living in a house which was owned by the Crawley Borough Council. The council had said that the families were "intentionally homeless" and therefore refused to provide them with accommodation.

The families had argued that they were not "intentionally homeless" and that the council had a duty to provide them with accommodation. They had also argued that the council's decision was discriminatory on the grounds of race.

The Court of Appeal, in its majority decision, found that the families were "intentionally homeless" and that the council's decision to refuse to provide them with accommodation was lawful. Lord Denning said that the families had chosen to leave their homes in Italy and that they had done so for reasons of their own making.

Lord Justice Bridge also found that the families were "intentionally homeless" and that the council's decision was lawful. He said that the families had chosen to leave their homes in Italy and that they had done so for reasons of their own making.

Sir David Cairns, who was in the minority, dissented from the majority decision. He found that the families were not "intentionally homeless" and that the council had a duty to provide them with accommodation. He also found that the council's decision was discriminatory on the grounds of race.

The Court of Appeal's decision is a significant one, as it upholds the local authority's decision to refuse to provide accommodation for the two young Italian families. It also confirms that the families were "intentionally homeless" and that the council's decision was lawful.

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Lord Justice Bridge said that there was considerable force in two grounds on which the applicants attacked the council's decision that they became homeless intentionally: that it had regard to an irrelevant consideration that they came to the United Kingdom from Italy; and that there was no finding or material to justify a finding that on leaving Italy the applicants deliberately did or failed to do anything in consequence of which they ceased to occupy accommodation available to them which would have been reasonable for them to continue to occupy. But his Lordship was not prepared to dissent from the view of his brother judges.

On the subsidiary point his Lordship considered the period contemplated by section 4(3) began when the local authority's adverse decision on intentional homelessness was communicated to the applicant and on that basis the period allowed was so short that no reasonable authority could have thought it sufficient to satisfy the section's requirements; but since the writs had been issued and the period elapsed during which the applicants had again been provided with accommodation so that it could not now be said it did not afford the reasonable opportunity contemplated by section 4(3).

Sir David Cairns gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Bates, Wells, Braithwaite & Sharpe, Fritchard & Co for Mr A. S. Chalfont, Crawley.

The applicants said that the council had acted in breach of the Code of Guidance (prepared by the Department of the Environment and the Welsh Office) "paragraph 2.18 of the code said: 'In assessing whether a person has become homeless intentionally it will be relevant to consider the most immediate cause of the homelessness rather than events that may have taken place previously. It would be inappropriate to treat as intentionally homeless a person who gave up accommodation to move in with relatives or friends who then decided after a few months that they could no longer continue to accommodate him.'"

If that paragraph were to be treated as a binding statute, the council could not be held to have acted in breach of the code when they left Italy but at the position when their families or relatives in England threw them out. That the council did not do so.

But his Lordship was quite clear that the code should not be regarded as a binding statute. The council had to have regard to it under section 12, but having done so they could depart from it if they thought fit. The present case was one where they were perfectly entitled to depart from it. Their paragraph might be all very well for people coming from Italy, but it should not be applied to people coming from a Common Market country. Section 15 showed that people leaving a connection with another area in England might not have a claim to accommodation.

As to the grant of an interim injunction, the present cases were not the same as *American Cyanamid* [1975] AC 313 because the applicants could not give any worthwhile undertaking in damages. No injunction should be granted against the council unless a prima facie case was made out that the finding of "intentional homelessness" was invalid. It should not be granted unless it was a case where, on an application for judicial review, a court would be granted to quash the decision and mandamus issued to command them to consider the case afresh.

The decision of Mr Justice Stephen Brown in *Hickin v Mole Valley District Council* (unreported, October 23, 1979) when he granted an interim injunction existing the council to provide accommodation for caravan dwellers was erroneous.

On the point that the council had allowed the families only four days to leave the guest houses and that that was too short a time to satisfy section 4(3), his Lordship thought regard could be had to the five or six weeks they had already been in the guest houses and the five or six more weeks during the present proceedings in which to find other accommodation.

Crawley council had Gatwick airport in their area. If any family from the Common Market could fly into Gatwick, stay a month or two with relatives, then claim to be unintentionally homeless it would be a most serious matter for the overcrowded borough. They should be able to do better than King Canute. He had the rising tide at Southamptton to come no farther. It took no notice. He got his feet wet. His Lordship trusted that the Crawley council would keep their dry—against the new advancing tide. He would dismiss the appeal.

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Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union v Times Newspapers Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice O'Connor

The hearing continued of three preliminary issues of law to be determined before the trial of an action for libel brought by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union against Times Newspapers Ltd in respect of two articles published in *The Times* on November 18, 1977, and alleged to be defamatory of the union.

The three questions are: (1) Can a trade union (not being a special register body) maintain an action in its own name for damages for defamation in relation to its reputation as a legal entity whether or not such entity is separate and distinct from its individual members?

(2) If the answer to question (1) is in the affirmative, is any such cause of action dependent upon proof of damage to the union's property or special damage suffered by the union?

(3) Is such a union able to maintain an action for damages on behalf of each and every one of its individual members in the name of the union (without identifying any particular member or members) in relation to a publication which impugns their several reputations as members of the union?

Mr Lester, resuming the argument for *The Times* defendants, said that in the light of the majority decision of the House of Lords in *Bonsor v Musicians' Union* [1956] AC 104 the correct basis for the decision in *National Union of General and Municipal Workers v Gillan* [1945] 2 All ER 383 was no longer that a

trade union was a legal entity with juridical personality, but that by virtue of the Trade Union Acts trade unions were to be regarded as near-corporations or quasi-corporations and able to sue in defamation on that basis.

In the *Bonsor* case Lord Justice Denning was right in explaining that a libel was in its very nature a wrong to the person and that it was only by attributing legal personality to a trade union that it could be permitted to sue for a libel on itself. In that respect there was an obvious difference between proceedings for libel and other proceedings in tort, where the doctrine of agency would apply. Lord Justice Denning was wrong in the *Bonsor* case, however, in suggesting that a trade union had full corporate personality as a separate entity rather than quasi-corporate personality, the view which prevailed with the House of Lords in that case.

As regarded unincorporated associations generally, of which a trade union was only one species of the genus, the condition of quasi-corporate personality could only arise as a result of a statute or a charter. Each case regarding unincorporated associations must be determined on the construction of the particular statute creating or establishing the association—in this case the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974—to determine whether it granted quasi-corporate personality to the association.

The defendants submitted that there were only four bodies or persons which could be used or could sue for libel: (a) a corporate body; (b) a partnership

(with special rules); (c) a quasi-corporate body created by statute; (d) a natural person.

The first phase of industrial law ended with the Industrial Relations Act 1971, the second phase, which altered the status of trade unions by conferring corporate status upon them. The Act also removed the general immunity in tort (which had been conferred by section 41 of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906), but it continued the immunity for acts done in contemplation or furtherance of trade disputes. It might well be that historical dislikes of the *Taff Vale* case [1901] AC 426 and the 1906 Act itself by the trade union movement explained the prohibition on treating trade unions as corporate bodies in the 1974 Act.

The third phase was covered by the 1974 Act. It was submitted that section 2(1) (c), which conferred the capacity to sue and be sued in the union's own name in any proceedings whatever, was a procedural and not a substantive provision.

The defendants also submitted that the first question an argument based on reciprocity. That had much wider implications merely than for the tort of defamation. It was submitted that section 2(1) (c) was expressly made "subject to section 14, and by the use of those words Parliament made the scope of the capacity to sue subject to the scope of the capacity to be sued. It was the correlative argument.

On question 2, it was conceded that the weight of authority was against the defendants, but they wished to reserve their position. Question 3 had been put by the plaintiffs, and it was therefore left to be opened by the plaintiffs and dealt with by the defendants on reply.

Mr Kempster, for the plaintiff said that since 1913 it was generally accepted that a trade union could sue for damage to its reputation, and if the defendants' point on the effect of the provisions of section 2 of the 1974 Act was upheld it would change a practice, an attitude and an assumption that had long been held.

On *Bonsor* counsel submitted that there was a balance in the House of Lords in favour of the view that a trade union was, or was at the time, a legal entity, and it did not matter whether it was to be distinguished from the membership as a whole or not. If it was to be regarded as a legal entity in law as it was regarded in fact, then it had sufficient personality, sufficient reputation to warrant the law extending to that entity a right to protect and vindicate that reputation in the Queen's courts.

In regard to the 1974 Act, the plaintiffs submitted that when the statute referred to a corporation it could not at the same time refer to an unincorporated body. It was also submitted that there was no presumption, particularly when dealing with legislation relating to trade unions, that any golden rule of reciprocity was intended.

At the time when the 1974 Act was enacted it was well known in all relevant circles that there existed corporations, ordinary human beings and bodies which were not corporations but had some of their attributes and could be regarded as quasi-corporations, and which as a result of such capacity had a legal personality sufficient to support a reputation and therefore to guard and safeguard such reputation. The material

words in section 2(1) "shall not be, or be treated as if it were, a body corporate" meant no more and no less than that a trade union was not to be treated as, and was not, a corporation in the full sense of such a corporation as might be established by grant from the Crown or by incorporation pursuant to the Companies Act, 1948.

Then the draftsman went on to confer on such an organization of workers a whole series of incidents which were only consistent with the intention to give the organization quasi-corporate status, a personality in law and, for the purposes of the present proceedings, a reputation which, for the discharge of its functions, the organization would need to protect.

Sub-sections (a) to (c) indicated that the organization would not be a corporation in the full sense nor be treated in any way as a corporation in the full sense, but nonetheless would enjoy those incidents which the courts historically had found to be characteristic of a quasi-corporation.

Further sections in the Act made that apparent and, indeed, would render the effect and purpose wholly inexpressible were any other construction put on them. In the plaintiffs' submission the meaning of section 2(1) was that an organization of workers, being a trade union, was not, and was not to be treated as, a corporate body, but being an unincorporated association was to be used with quasi-corporate status, such status being sufficient to enjoy a reputation, and a reputation which it was entitled, pursuant to section 2(1)(c), to protect. The hearing was adjourned.

Capacity of a trade union to protect its members

Before Mr Justice O'Connor

The hearing continued of three preliminary issues of law to be determined before the trial of an action for libel brought by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union against Times Newspapers Ltd in respect of two articles published in *The Times* on November 18, 1977, and alleged to be defamatory of the union.

The three questions are: (1) Can a trade union (not being a special register body) maintain an action in its own name for damages for defamation in relation to its reputation as a legal entity whether or not such entity is separate and distinct from its individual members?

(2) If the answer to question (1) is in the affirmative, is any such cause of action dependent upon proof of damage to the union's property or special damage suffered by the union?

(3) Is such a union able to maintain an action for damages on behalf of each and every one of its individual members in the name of the union (without identifying any particular member or members) in relation to a publication which impugns their several reputations as members of the union?

Mr Lester, resuming the argument for *The Times* defendants, said that in the light of the majority decision of the House of Lords in *Bonsor v Musicians' Union* [1956] AC 104 the correct basis for the decision in *National Union of General and Municipal Workers v Gillan* [1945] 2 All ER 383 was no longer that a

trade union was a legal entity with juridical personality, but that by virtue of the Trade Union Acts trade unions were to be regarded as near-corporations or quasi-corporations and able to sue in defamation on that basis.

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In regard to the 1974 Act, the plaintiffs submitted that when the statute referred to a corporation it could not at the same time refer to an unincorporated body. It was also submitted that there was no presumption, particularly when dealing with legislation relating to trade unions, that any golden rule of reciprocity was intended.

At the time when the 1974 Act was enacted it was well known in all relevant circles that there existed corporations, ordinary human beings and bodies which were not corporations but had some of their attributes and could be regarded as quasi-corporations, and which as a result of such capacity had a legal personality sufficient to support a reputation and therefore to guard and safeguard such reputation. The material

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Liberal interpretation

Inc v China Salvage Co
McGow Branch

n 27



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PARLIAMENT SHOULD FIGHT

The question of how big a role could be played by a directly elected European Parliament has been a head very quickly. It is a matter of months after the summer's elections. Not surprisingly, it has taken the form of a conflict between the House of Commons and the Council of Ministers, representing the nine national governments, over the Community budget. The Parliament is trying to make a small, largely symbolic cut in spending on the common agricultural policy, and increase spending on other areas, such as regional development, job creation, scientific research and energy projects. A Council has rejected the Parliament's proposals and, Community rules being what they are, the Parliament now has the choice of either accepting or rejecting the draft budget sent to it by the Council. Rejection would be a serious step, because it would cause a great deal of disruption of Community activity. But many members of the House of Commons are convinced that the importance of the issue at stake—the need to cut cultural spending and the need for real control by a directly elected Parliament—could justify taking such a step.

But many members of the House of Commons are convinced that the importance of the issue at stake—the need to cut cultural spending and the need for real control by a directly elected Parliament—could justify taking such a step. They believe that they are right. There is no question that total control of the budget is a very serious weapon, which would be difficult to use in many different areas. But it is the only one that the Parliament has. If it is used, it would be a very serious weapon, which would be difficult to use in many different areas. But it is the only one that the Parliament has. If it is used, it would be a very serious weapon, which would be difficult to use in many different areas. But it is the only one that the Parliament has.

City of London is the only authority in England and Wales still to retain aldermen. One of the reasons given at the time for allowing the City to keep its aldermen was that its aldermen were democratically elected. In the rest of the country, before they were abolished, the time of local government organization were appointed by the political party in control of the council. In July last, a local election was held in the City of London. Residents were entitled to vote, as were businessmen in the area. They voted in favour of Mr Donald Silk, a local City. The City's Court of Aldermen, ever, refused to admit him to its ranks, and that refusal has now been upheld by the Divisional Court. The decision is a landmark. It is more than the first time that the

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resisted by those in this country, in France and elsewhere who are afraid of anything that appears to encroach on national powers of decision-making; and there is always the fear that, though the Parliament is now taking a course which suits British interests, on another occasion there might be a majority for a policy quite opposed to those interests. But it is clear that even at its present stage of development, the Community very much needs a counterweight to the Council of Ministers. If only to draw attention to the necessity for reform of the common agricultural policy. At the same time the Community's powers are very limited, and even if they are used to the full, in rejecting the budget, for instance, it will still be a long way from rivaling the Council of Ministers.

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Loyalty of Rhodesia civil servants

From Mr B. J. Lennox
Sir, I refer to your leading article of December 6 and take exception to the implications of the Rhodesia civil servants' loyalty, which has a proud reputation of loyalty serving the government of the day. There is no doubt that the government of Sir Godfrey Huggins, Garfield Todd and Sir Edgar Whitehead were all served as loyally as those of Winston Field, Ian Smith and Bishop Munro. The declaration of independence in November, 1965, the governor, Sir Humphrey Gibbs, instructed civil servants to stay at their posts and this was endorsed in the House of Commons by the then Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson. On the declaration of a republic in March, 1970, the then Foreign Secretary, in answer to a question in the House, stated that the former Governor's instruction had lapsed. Our legal advisers tell us that a fundamental instruction, such as that given by the Governor, cannot be unilaterally deemed to have lapsed without consultation between the parties and the offer and acceptance of reasonable alternatives. No consultation ever took place, nor were any reasonable alternatives offered to civil servants. The executive of this association believes that the Rhodesia civil servants' loyalty is a binding obligation, which will therefore serve Lord Soames as loyally as they have served any other head of government. Turning to your other allegation, I can assure you that, in all the negotiations for the security of pensions, I have undertaken on behalf of this association with both ministers and civil servants in Britain, hatred and contempt have been noticeable by their absence on both sides. At its sixteenth annual conference in September, 1978, this association unanimously passed a resolution that its members wished to continue to serve any government which was elected to power as well as they had done in the previous 60 years. This position still pertains, both during the Governor's rule and regardless of who comes to power in the forthcoming elections. We do, however, hope that, in recognition of our efforts, her Majesty's Government will consider the Rhodesia civil servants' loyalty as a binding obligation, which will therefore serve Lord Soames as loyally as they have served any other head of government.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. LENNOX,
President,
Public Services Association,
Salisbury,
Southern Rhodesia.

Licensing pornography

From Mrs Dorothy Donaldson Hudson
Sir, Councillor David Avery made a point in his letter (Licensing pornography) that pornography is licensed in Soho has run riot. In the last few years over 200 shops, premises have been taken over by the pornographers to the economic detriment of the resident and business community. On November 7 the Soho Society handed to Mr Peter Brooke, MP for the City of London and Westminster, a petition to the Secretary of State for the Environment asking that he "control, by means of legislation if necessary, the continuing proliferation of the sex industry in Soho, which operates to the disadvantage of residents, visitors, and businesses alike, and which is expanding with blatant disregard of town planning and other environmental controls". This petition was collected in less than four days and was signed by 847 people resident in Soho, each signature being obtained by private interview because a publicly distributed petition gave rise to fears amongst Soho residents of possible reprisals by the big operators who we think are behind the individual purveyors of pornography. In addition to requiring all sex establishments to be licensed and controlled in the same way as betting shops, it would also appear to be necessary for legislation to be passed enabling stringent fines to be levied for unlicensed and therefore illegal use of premises for pornographic purposes, whether soft or hard porn. The Soho Society opposes pornography, not on grounds of sexual morality, but because it is a shackle for the Soho community and its tolerance has been strained to the limit. Let those misguided spokesmen who describe the findings of the Williams Committee as being a "licence to print money" take a more realistic view and recognize that licensing is the only solution to this problem. Yours faithfully,
DOROTHY DONALDSON HUDSON,
The Soho Society,
57, Dean Street, W1,
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Smoking in public places

From Professor Charles Fletcher
Sir, Mr Bernard Levin's article about bans on smoking (December 11) is not only full of gratuitous offence, but also with deception. Smoking is now a minority habit. Only 41 per cent of the whole population of the UK smoke and only 30 per cent of the professional classes. Cigarette smoke is so offensive to the non-smoking majority that something has to be done to control the minority. This is no doubt why the BBC instigated the debate on a ban on smoking in public places, in which both Mr Levin and I took part and to which he refers in his article. He accuses me of fanaticism in it, so let me describe what actually happened. Clement Freud, Lord Soper and I had prepared a reasoned approach to a ban on smoking in public places, but three minutes before the debate started Mr Levin insisted on making it totalitarian. For the sake of the programme we agreed. A few seconds later, Miss Stessinghouse asked me how a total ban on smoking could be enforced. I had to reply that it must be by fines and, of course if these fines were not paid, imprisonment would be the appropriate sanction for contempt of court. The fanaticism of which Mr Levin accuses me was due solely to his own insistence that his side could only win the debate by making it ridiculous. During this half of the audience voted in favour of the extreme motion. So lofty is Mr Levin after his "insight training" about which he wrote recently, that he didn't notice this remarkable demonstration of how many people now support stricter control of smoking. This fact, together with the vast numbers of people who kill themselves by smoking (at least 30,000 every year under the age of 65), seems to be beneath Mr Levin's serious consideration. If the tobacco manufacturers were to address themselves to gradually reducing sales of their dangerous products, as every pharmaceutical manufacturer does once a drug is found to have dangerous side effects, and if it were not that at least half of all smokers desperately want help in stopping smoking, Mr Levin's libertarian approach might suffice. As it is, doctors are forced as they have been in many aspects of preventive medicine in the past to control the majority to protect the minority. This is a serious problem, Sir, and one that deserves more thoughtful debate in your columns than Mr Levin's schoolboy abuse and his retreat from honest discussion in public debate. Yours faithfully,
CHARLES FLETCHER,
20 Drayton Gardens, SW10.

From the Secretary of State for Social Services
Sir, Bernard Levin, whom I much enjoy reading, has slipped (December 11). No one in my Department, least of all myself, has made any approach whatever to the Royal Warrant for the Royal Household. I would regard it as a great impertinence to do any such thing. Yours, etc,
PATRICK JENKIN,
Department of Health and Social Services, 10, Whitehall, London, W1C 9JH.

From Mr Maxwell Bruce, QC
Sir, Bernard Levin's call for liberty of choice for smokers (December 11) overlooks the fundamental point that freedom of action by one group can at the same time oppress others. Non-smokers equally have a right, which is to a non-tobacco-smoked environment. Despite the medical views quoted by Mr Levin, there appears to be impressive scientific evidence that smoking by smokers does harm non-

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Learning lessons of the thirties

From Professor Thomas Wilson
Sir, The year 1979 marks the fiftieth anniversary of two disasters in the United States. The recession that started in 1929 was allowed to develop into a slump that engulfed the capitalist world. In the USSR, in December, 1929, Stalin launched his campaign to eliminate peasant proprietorship and establish collective farms. It was in 1933, when the slump was at its worst, that the USSR experienced a devastating famine as the direct consequence of Communist policy. Although the two events were unconnected, the coincidence in time was remarkable. In the capitalist world the slump convinced many people of the need to reform the system by avoiding in the future the mismanagement of the monetary and fiscal systems which had been the basic cause of the disaster. There were others who drew a different conclusion: capitalism must be overthrown and it was therefore right to pledge absolute loyalty to the one country where the revolution had already taken place. They were presumably quite unaware of what was happening at the same time in Russia. The record of the famine has, of course, been concealed as much as possible by the Russian censorship, but the general course of events has long been known, though not widely known, in the West. Thus Professor Nove has observed that, according to the census statistics, "well over 10 million people had disappeared" in 1933. "An *Economist* History of the USSR, p. 180. Although it would be wrong to infer that 10 million died of starvation, the number must have been very large indeed. In this must be added the number who died of disease, and many peasants were also deported and subjected to cruel hardship. There can be little doubt that, although the slump in the capitalist world was a tragedy, it was less terrible than the contemporary tragedy in Russia. The capitalist knows about the capitalist slump but it seems probable that, even today, few people in the West are aware that there was a famine in Russia. We have been reminded recently by the media about the slump; it is surely time to make a serious attempt to inform us about the famine. It is all the more important that this should be done because agriculture—reorganized at this terrible cost in human suffering—has continued to be so weak a sector in the Soviet economy that it has been a major factor in the desperate need in recent years in order to provide food for the Communist countries. The economies of the West are once more in difficulty and it is crucially important to ensure that our defence is now sufficiently strong to prevent the current recession from leading down once more into deep depression. But Russia is also encountering serious difficulties and these are not confined to agriculture. This fact does not mean that the West is superior ideological conclusions are not to be drawn once again. Yours faithfully,
THOMAS WILSON,
Department of Political Economy,
Adam Smith Building,
University of Glasgow,
Glasgow,
December 10.

From the Vice Principal of the Central School of Art and Design
Sir, The gravamen of Mr Levin's article of today's date (December 11) is rebuttable quite simply by the very same principles as apply to the lurid displays of soft porn which are to be found in our local sweet shops. So Mr Levin wishes to be known as a champion of the cause of the individual's liberty to do as he pleases, more particularly that smokers should be free to smoke in public places if they so wish. But, in equity, he should surely also take into account the corollary of this, namely the freedom of non-smokers not to have done to them that which they do not wish to have done to them, i.e. the freedom not to be "smoked at". In such matters, the rights and liberties of both sections of the community must be safeguarded. Yours faithfully,
PAUL BIRD,
Vice Principal,
Central School of Art and Design,
Southampton Row, WC1.

From Mr Eugene A. Leeh
Sir, Regarding Mr Levin's thoughtful article on cigarette smoking (December 11), perhaps the Government health warning should be reworded to state, simply and truthfully, contains permitted carcinogens. Yours sincerely,
E. A. LEEH,
14 Salisbury Court,
Salisbury Avenue, N3,
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Cancelled meeting

From the Provost of the City of London
I should like to correct the edition, which appears to have been from misunderstanding, that cancelling of the meeting at St Paul's Cathedral last Thursday (December 6) was anything to do with Sir Keith Joseph or the views he might have been putting forward. The senior officer of the City of London who cancelled the meeting was the officer ultimately responsible for confirming with the City and Safety at Work Act and the decision because of the safety of holding a meeting in the building. A large number of people were believed to have been in the building in preparation for a meeting on an entirely separate issue, that of over-student fees. The issue of student fees was not involved. Sir Keith Joseph has been a well-known visitor to the City of London.

Polytechnic on a number of occasions and his meetings have been well attended and have given rise to lively and constructive debate. I look forward to rearranging at an early date, the meeting that was to be held by the Conservative Students' Alliance. Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR SUDDARY,
The Provost,
City of London Polytechnic,
117-119 Houndsditch, EC3.

Prayer Book language

From the General Secretary of the Church Union
Sir, Canon George Adstin (letter, December 6) cannot have it both ways. He cannot on the one hand claim that Catholics within the Church of England only "could" and never actually "would" use the new rite, and then on the other hand be upset when the Church Union, the leading Catholic body within the Church of England, actually uses the rite (in a non-parochial service held in an unconsecrated building), within 24 hours of General Synod having authorized it. The rite used that day was entirely within the bounds of the new service using the liberty given by the rubrics and notes contained within it, and minor variations allowable under Canon B5(1). Yours faithfully,
PETER GELDARD,
General Secretary,
The Church Union,
7, Tufton Street, SW1,
December 6.

Assisted places scheme

From Lady Wale-Cohen
Sir, It is important that we should make clear that the assumption which Dr Michael Hooker made in his letter in today's issue (December 10) is based on a misunderstanding. The fees of every independent school are bound to include a component for capital expenditure. We are assured by the Department of Education and Science that there is every intention that the approved fees of the assisted places schools shall include a similar component. May I also say how much we in the Council support Sir Desmond Lee's letter (December 10). The independent schools have never wished that the opportunities they have to offer should be confined to the children of well-to-do parents. They welcome the chance which the assisted places scheme provides of opening their doors more widely. Yours faithfully,
JOYCE WALEY-COHEN,
Chairman of the Independent Schools Joint Council,
11 Little St James's Street, SW1.

Trees for kingfishers

From the Chairman of the Southern Water Authority
Sir, Your correspondent, Alison Ross, in your issue (November 24) made the statement that "modern river management demands treeless banks", and asked that water authorities should provide alternative accommodation for kingfishers in the form of short posts on river banks. May I correct this statement with regard to river management and inform you that this authority is always ready to consider suggestions in the interests of nature conservation. The authority has recently approved a policy for the conservation of mature deciduous trees which has been discussed with nature conservation bodies, the Nature Conservancy Council, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and County Naturalists' Trusts, with whom we have arrangements for liaison and regular discussion on implementation and other matters of mutual concern. Generally, trees will be retained wherever possible so that, except on the widest rivers, the

minimum number of trees are removed from one bank to allow machine operations whilst on the other bank trees that do not impede the river flow may continue to grow. Resulting from her article, an authority senior engineer has met Miss Ross on site and agreed to put in the posts she seeks on sections of the banks of the River Arun. It is hoped that these will have the desired effect. Yours sincerely,
A. H. M. SMYTH,
Chairman,
Southern Water Authority,
Guildbourne House,
Worthing, Sussex.

Mild or bitter

From Mrs W. Marlowe
Sir, Today, December 9 I noticed that snowdrops are coming up in our wood. Does this herald the longest ever winter or the earliest ever spring?

From Mr J. Richards
Sir, I recently returned from Canada on a British Airways 747 jet which appeared to be infested with cockroaches. Showing characteristic resource, an air hostess removed her shoe and attacked them with it, crushing at least one. But another eluded her blows and fell upon the lady seated next to me, causing her considerable distress. I managed to drive it to the floor, whereupon it retreated under her seat. The air passenger suffers expense, frequent delays and inconvenience. Must he also suffer cockroaches? Yours faithfully,
J. RICHARDS,
64 Colverstone Crescent, E8.

Pests in flight

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Interest now is focused on the working party set up by the Department of Health and Social Security and chaired by Professor P. I. Lewthwaite, architect of London's clean air legislation. The working party is examining the effects of *exposure* of lead in all its guises, and not just petrol-lead. So it is considering the effects of lead in time, in food, in paint, in water pipes. That lead is a dangerous nerve poison is not disputed. But what has emerged in recent research is that lead *can* in

impairment in children are investigated. If it is a matter of cost, well, it is very expensive to care for disturbed, difficult and damaged children.

The case against petrol-head may be not proven; but it is the very strong element of doubt that may persuade the government to act, and to take the course of safety that other countries took years ago.

Trevor Fishlock

Jailbird produces just enough uncomfortable perceptions like this—another, in the foreword, that a crowd believing itself to be silent is not the same as a crowd that really is—for us to hope that the surrealist poet in Vonnegut is merely dormant; but in the main this is a pale, dispiriting and unfocused performance by one of the most original and disturbing fabulists of our time.

Joseph McCulloch

his lamb, Millie, in an exercise of discipline. He went on to

and after his television film he was inundated with fan letters proving that his old friend Charles Chaplin was wrong when he had captioned the photograph in his biography 'Breaking the news to Lord Mountbatten that he is a star.' He could not have had more of Lady Mountbatten's career, and along with all the stars, crosses and medals, Lord Mountbatten must have revealed how he acquired the cross on forehead mentioned in his Naval identity card. His publishers have served him ill in the unimpressive representation of some of the pictures and they would have done well to submit the family trees to his professional scrutiny. (There are several mistakes in the genealogy.) Juan Carlos is still described as Infante and Prince of Spain after four years on the throne.) But this is a handsome book and a tribute to an extraordinary

Hugo Vickers

the TLS tomorrow will review Anthony Blunt's *Borromini*, discuss the history of death, catch up on European politics and French literature, and have 2 pages of reviews of children's books.

Next week The Times will review Margaret Drabble and John Fowles, look for the merits of *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Guardian*, welcome Billy Graham to Britain, and lay crackle with old Widsen.

Jan Stephens

AURUM PRESS £9.95

Christmas

Collins, Robert

Harassed hostesses who do for themselves face exactly the same problem, the dilemma of advance preparation versus last minute panic with blobs of some de fois gras on the front of a new frock.

Put the cornflour in a small, heavy pan and stir in the milk. Add the diced cheese, the butter cut in small pieces, and the seasonings.

Heat the mixture slowly, stirring constantly, and cook until it is really thick and pulls away from the sides of the pan.

Remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly before beating in the eggs one at a time. Stir in the diced cheese. Using two teaspoons, mould half-teaspoonful of the paste into balls and deep fry at 190°C (375°F) for six to eight minutes, turning them over at about half time. At this temperature, a one-inch cube of day old bread will brown in 60 seconds and the paste will brown, more than doubling its size, into golden puffs. Drain and serve very hot.

The royal biographies give a hint of all that went wrong. To one seemed responsible for the arrangements as a whole. The Queen insisted on the Abbey, whereas St Paul's would have been the better choice. Then there was the question of cost. The Queen was inclined to be frugal, and the Government was not inclined to pay out money on a celebration without pageantry. The foreign "royal mob" must be there in force, among them

Agatha
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[illegible]

National
to the World

John
chartered

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Food
SURVIVORS

Stock markets
Ind 423.6 up 0.7
Cites 64.37 up 0.28

sterling
330 up 25 points
x 69.5 up 0.4

Gold
x 65.1 up 0.3

Oil
an ounce down 50.5

Month money
bank 16 11/16 to 162
513 13/16 to 14.00

BRIT

d slips

447

r early

IS

breaking through \$450

the gold price slipped

slightly yesterday to close

at \$447 an ounce.

ign exchange markets,

was generally a little

although dealers still

say it is very hard to

sell against the year.

Against the year,

the recovered much of

and lost earlier this

year in London last

year to the dollar.

is to sell up to one

ounce of gold from the

reserves of 22 million

over, it may not sell

the open market. Some

the Canadian mint to

least gold coins.

aim discount rate was

at a point to 10 1/2 per

cent.

il for Italy

ela will supply Italy

million tons of crude

oil, or double its ship-

both crude and re-

UK industry prepares for £100m a year trade as Rhodesia bar is lifted

By John Huxley

Restrictions on trade with Southern Rhodesia were withdrawn yesterday in a series of government moves taking effect from midnight. They signalled the start of a period of hectic activity by British industry aimed at re-establishing itself in a market which trade officials believe could yield exports worth £100m in the next 12 months.

Removal of the sanctions almost restores normal commercial relations with Southern Rhodesia. As for other countries, licences will still be required for the import and export of certain types of goods subject to general restrictions.

An additional requirement, reflecting the terms of the political solution being worked out for the country, is that export to Southern Rhodesia of aircraft, aircraft spares and equipment will be subject to licensing control.

Exchange controls relating to Rhodesia were removed by the Treasury by means of Statutory Instruments laid before Parliament last night. This means that the abolition of exchange controls, announced by the Chancellor in October, becomes effective worldwide.

At the same time, the Export Credits Guarantee Department, announced that insurance cover is now available for British exports to Southern Rhodesia. Cover will apply in the first instance to exports sold on credit terms not exceeding six months.

The ECGD is to keep under consideration the possibility of extending cover to other types of "potentially profitable" developments in the market and the needs of British exporters, an official said.

Many British companies who have remained in an "arm's length" presence in Southern Rhodesia for the past 15 years are still waiting for an indication from the Southern

Rhodesian authorities that obstacles to the resumption of normal trading are to be removed. These companies have been unable to gather information or take dividends from subsidiaries in Southern Rhodesia.

A spokesman for Turner and Neval, best known for its asbestos interests, said last night that a team led by Mr Martin Bell, the finance director, was waiting "with bags packed" to reestablish contact with the Rhodesian authorities. But this would occur only when the authorities lifted restrictions on exchange of financial information.

St John Meehan, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday welcomed the opportunity of an early resumption of trade with Southern Rhodesia.

The CBI now expects to send a mission to Salisbury next month. It will be led by Mr Daniel Stewart, of Standard Chartered Bank.

In the same month, the London Chamber of Commerce is sending a mission to South Africa, and it is now hoped to include a visit to Southern Rhodesia.

British Airways hopes to resume flights to Salisbury within the next few days. Yesterday, the corporation was awaiting confirmation of its service by the Southern Rhodesian authorities.

The service will fly from Heathrow via Nairobi. BA has retained a licence for the route since before Southern Rhodesia's declaration of independence.

An official said the twice-weekly service was a "potentially very healthy source of revenue". Meanwhile, British Caledonian is considering whether to appeal against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision last night not to grant the airline a licence for the twice-weekly service to Salisbury.

Department of Trade officials said last night that hard information on trade prospects with Southern Rhodesia was lacking although it was hoped that some would be provided by a commercial councillor, attached to the Foreign Office, who is now with Lord Soames.

In 1965, Britain was Southern Rhodesia's main trading partner, per cent of Southern Rhodesia's imports and exports £3.5m (22 per cent of Salisbury's exports). To achieve the same performance an eightfold increase on these figures would be required.

This is clearly one of the questions, although trade officials believe Southern Rhodesia could resume its position as third largest African market after South Africa and Nigeria.

Growth in the Southern Rhodesian economy has been poor—zero this year, but perhaps 3 per cent next, but the longer term prospects are regarded as good.

Manch will depend upon how much currency Salisbury has to spend on infrastructure, much of which needs replacing, and the success of British companies in wresting back markets.

A number of British companies and corporations have been preparing for the return of Rhodesia to legality. Dunlop and the Imperial Group were among those seeking to reestablish contact with companies in Salisbury.

ICI said yesterday it was looking at trade opportunities in Southern Rhodesia. British Rail said that its consultants were looking at the possibilities of undertaking work in Southern Rhodesia.

The best export opportunities are seen in the area of equipment for transport, agriculture and the process industries. Before UDI the principal export from Southern Rhodesia to Britain was tobacco.

British Leyland International is considering sending a team to Salisbury to report on BL assembly operations.

Mr George Turnbull, managing director of Chrysler UK, said that he is looking for a 25 per cent improvement, but has given a warning that if the loss-making subsidiary does not move into profits shortly Peugeot could well pull the plug and we shall go down the sink.

Meanwhile the BL joint negotiating council met yesterday to continue negotiations to even more sweeping productivity improvements demanded in return for a five per cent wage increase plus an incentive bonus scheme.

The talks were adjourned last night and will resume tomorrow.

Peugeot accused: The French National Assembly was reduced to a political row of the Pierre Juquin, the Communist member for Essonne, produced what he called a secret document showing that Peugeot-Citroen had compiled a dossier on the political views of all workers at its plant at Birt.

He accused Peugeot of "treating its employees like horses meat."

Mr Bainbridge, calling the time in the ports.

out certain central functions such as the promotion of port research and training and the production of statistics.

The industry had changed, particularly in technical areas, in the last 10 years and the time had come for a change in structure at national level.

"Now ports will control the discharge of their functions and control the money. They will no longer be able to complain that the people who pay the piper are not allowed to call the tune."

The council's research has included work on instrumentation on dredgers, ship behaviour in shallow and confined channels, and container location systems for cradles.

Mr Fowler's statement was welcomed last night by Mr Eric Bainbridge, director of the British Ports Association. Plans were already being made to satisfy the Minister's requirements and the BPA could carry

executive, said yesterday there were three changes of emphasis introduced by the new guidelines.

The first was the investment subsidiary for which the agency had long been practical advantages.

Secondly, in private sector participation the agency should not invest in any enterprise for which private sector money was available, and that the agency's share in company should not be greater than 50 per cent of its funding without approval of the Government.

The agency would have a duty to include a buy-back clause in all relevant investment agreements, and when agency money had done its job, it should be withdrawn and reallocated to other developments.

Two other changes introduced by the guidelines were that the agency could provide guarantees of up to £150,000 without giving notice to the Secretary of State for Scotland and that the limit of investments without approval of the Secretary of State was reduced from £2m to £1m.

Mr Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby in Merseyside, was carried after two hours discussion. It states that a company secretary should have adequate knowledge and expertise of his duties, and shall also be a member of either the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, or a member of any of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants for Eng-

land, Wales, Scotland or Ireland, or be a qualified barrister, solicitor or advocate.

Mr Barry Barker, secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries, which has been fighting for such a clause for more than 10 years, said yesterday that he was delighted that the amendment covered all public companies.

He pointed out that in the 1977 Stock Exchange Year Book, more than half the 4,000 secretaries of listed companies declared no professional qualifications.

"The clause should deter those from removing secretaries with whom they disagree, as they will not now be able to find anyone more amenable," Mr Barker also pointed out that the public will now be offered some guarantee of pro-

Stock Exchange takes first step towards introducing a three-tier market system

By Alison Mitchell

The Stock Exchange Council has taken the first step towards introducing a three-tier market system. A new Unlisted Securities Market (USM) has been proposed which will provide a half way house between a private company and an official listing.

Trading under rule 163(2), whereby shares in unlisted companies currently change hands, will no longer be permitted to quote a two-way price or open a position in the shares.

An exposure draft on the USM, prepared by a committee headed by Mr Charles Eglington, a partner in Akroyd & Smithers, stock jobbers, has been accepted in principle by the Council.

The draft will now be sent out to member firms and other

interested bodies for their opinions and comments and it is thought that if it is favourably received the new market could be in operation by early summer.

Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Council, said yesterday that the principal reason for allowing new capital to be raised in smaller amounts than would normally be practical or economic by way of an official listing.

The USM will be regulated by the Quotations Committee and the member companies will be charged a flat-rate annual fee of £1,000. Other requirements for entry include good trading results for the previous three years, a market placing of less than £1.5m and a minimum of 15 per cent of the equity to be traded publicly.

Although not wanting to become inflexible with its rules, the council envisages a transition to official listing status once a company's capitalization reaches the £10m level.

The draft emphasizes that existing listed companies will not be allowed to move backwards into this new market.

Of the near 300 companies currently trading under rule 163(2), only 37 were considered "active" enough to warrant inclusion in the new market.

MJH Nightingale, investment banker, said that the new market, and has another company due to be launched next Wednesday.

Mr Roger Hodgson said yesterday that he welcomed the new market and added that he did not expect to lose any of his stocks to it.

However, there is speculation that James Burroughs, which distills and markets "Beefeater" gin and "Borzo" vodka, may be the first to make

the move. Shares in the group are currently dealt but in the Nightingale market and under rule 163(2).

Mr J. Sanger, group finance director, admitted that he would be looking with interest at the USM but that Nightingale's suited the group's interest at present.

Mr John Robertson, senior partner at Wedd, Durlacher, Mordaunt, stock jobbers, said that the new system would technically make jobbing in the stocks much easier as the deals would no longer require the official seal of approval from the Quotations Committee.

However, he pointed out that, under the new system, it would be impossible for shareholders to do a "bed and breakfast" deal under rule 163(2) as jobbers could no longer take positions in the shares.

Financial Editor, page 19

Ryton men accept £8 Chrysler output deal

By Clifford Webb

Chrysler UK (it becomes Telford) yesterday has made the first breakthrough in negotiations to achieve the substantial productivity improvements demanded by its French parent Peugeot Citroen, for providing urgently needed capital investment.

A mass meeting of 2,000 assembly line workers at its Ryton, Coventry, car plant yesterday voted overwhelmingly to accept the recommendations of a conciliation/management working party.

Details were not available, but the recommendations are known to cover the withdrawal of some restrictive practices and more mobility of labour.

In return, the Ryton workers will be able to increase wages by up to £8 a week.

Negotiations at the nearby Stoke engine plant are also in the final stages and management is optimistic about the outcome. Progress is much slower at Linwood, Renfrewshire, but is expected to speed up in the new year when 1,250 redundancies now being finalized are out of the way.

Mr George Turnbull, managing director of Chrysler UK, said that he is looking for a 25 per cent improvement, but has given a warning that if the loss-making subsidiary does not move into profits shortly Peugeot could well pull the plug and we shall go down the sink.

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He accused Peugeot of "treating its employees like horses meat."

No work-sharing without rise in output, UK insists

By Donald Macintyre

Ministers are claiming a substantial diplomatic victory after the working hours of an EEC resolution which would have meant a clear statement of intent by member governments to reduce working time.

In a written reply yesterday to the House of Commons, Mr James Lester, Under-Secretary of State in the Department of Employment, said that a resolution finally agreed by the council of labour and social affairs ministers "took account of differing views among ministers about the scope there was for

a community approach to work-sharing measures."

Mr Lester said that proposals for working hours would, under the terms of the resolution, be a "matter for unions and management to consider in the course of collective bargaining procedures."

Lord Gowrie, Minister of State in the same department, who represented Britain at the meeting, succeeded in pressing for a statement which would not commit governments to reductions in hours or work-sharing without a corresponding increase in output.

Mr Page has often warned of the complications that can arise when unqualified people are employed as company secretaries. "We have made them responsible by statute for almost everything in the administration of companies, and if they do not carry out their duties they may be committing a criminal offence," he said.

The amended Bill has to go through report stage before it is implemented—probably early next year. It is not expected that the Government will make any substantial changes,

junior members and boards will now have no excuse for actions brought about by ignorance, he added. "This should help with the insider dealing problem, for example, as the first person to approach will be the company secretary."

Mr Page has often warned of the complications that can arise when unqualified people are employed as company secretaries. "We have made them responsible by statute for almost everything in the administration of companies, and if they do not carry out their duties they may be committing a criminal offence," he said.

The amended Bill has to go through report stage before it is implemented—probably early next year. It is not expected that the Government will make any substantial changes,

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National ports body to be wound up

By Edward Townsend

The Government is to abolish the National Ports Council, the statutory body set up 15 years ago to oversee Britain's ports. Its work has been financed by a levy on the industry of 1.5m a year.

Responsibility for efficiency "must now be put firmly on the ports themselves", said Mr Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport, in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Fowler said the council had been a considerable improvement over the years, but it would not be able to achieve the further improvements in the efficiency of the ports that the country needed.

Discussions between the Department of Transport, port users and the British Ports Association—the industry's trade association—are to take place to determine how the council's functions will be carried out in the future.

Mr Fowler added that he would introduce legislation winding up the council as soon as he was satisfied with the industry's arrangements for improving its efficiency and productivity. It would include provision for the council staff.

The abolition of the NPC came as no surprise to the ports industry, which has been pressing for structural changes and

a greater degree of control over industry-wide expenditure.

The council was established in 1964 under the Harbours Act. Its chairman is Sir John Egerton, who was chairman of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company for five years up to 1977. It has eight other members and a staff of about 65.

The NPC's chief duties are to encourage and advise the industry in the interests of efficiency and to advise the Minister on port policy and development.

Finance for the council has come from a statutory levy on the industry with a maximum annual limit of £1.5m. During the 1970s, the levy has varied from £425,000 in 1970 to £1,050,000 in 1978. Last year the levy was £900,000.

The council's spending this year has been about £1.1m plus smaller sums raised by state grants for research and further charges to the industry for research.

The council's research has included work on instrumentation on dredgers, ship behaviour in shallow and confined channels, and container location systems for cradles.

Mr Fowler's statement was welcomed last night by Mr Eric Bainbridge, director of the British Ports Association. Plans were already being made to satisfy the Minister's requirements and the BPA could carry

executive, said yesterday there were three changes of emphasis introduced by the new guidelines.

The first was the investment subsidiary for which the agency had long been practical advantages.

Secondly, in private sector participation the agency should not invest in any enterprise for which private sector money was available, and that the agency's share in company should not be greater than 50 per cent of its funding without approval of the Government.

The agency would have a duty to include a buy-back clause in all relevant investment agreements, and when agency money had done its job, it should be withdrawn and reallocated to other developments.

Two other changes introduced by the guidelines were that the agency could provide guarantees of up to £150,000 without giving notice to the Secretary of State for Scotland and that the limit of investments without approval of the Secretary of State was reduced from £2m to £1m.

Mr Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby in Merseyside, was carried after two hours discussion. It states that a company secretary should have adequate knowledge and expertise of his duties, and shall also be a member of either the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, or a member of any of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants for Eng-

land, Wales, Scotland or Ireland, or be a qualified barrister, solicitor or advocate.

Mr Barry Barker, secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries, which has been fighting for such a clause for more than 10 years, said yesterday that he was delighted that the amendment covered all public companies.

He pointed out that in the 1977 Stock Exchange Year Book, more than half the 4,000 secretaries of listed companies declared no professional qualifications.

"The clause should deter those from removing secretaries with whom they disagree, as they will not now be able to find anyone more amenable," Mr Barker also pointed out that the public will now be offered some guarantee of pro-



Mr Bainbridge, calling the time in the ports.

out certain central functions such as the promotion of port research and training and the production of statistics.

The industry had changed, particularly in technical areas, in the last 10 years and the time had come for a change in structure at national level.

"Now ports will control the discharge of their functions and control the money. They will no longer be able to complain that the people who pay the piper are not allowed to call the tune."

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Iran campaigns for cuts in oil production throughout Opec

By Nicholas Hirst

Iran is to campaign for production cuts by all the Opec nations when the oil producers meet in Caracas, Venezuela, starting on Monday.

Several Opec countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Venezuela, have indicated that, like Iran, they intend to reduce oil output next year.

Prices are expected to rise sharply. Mr Rene Oriz, the Opec secretary general, is reported as saying that a 30 per cent increase is possible. This would mean the official upper limit of \$23.50 to \$30.55 a barrel.

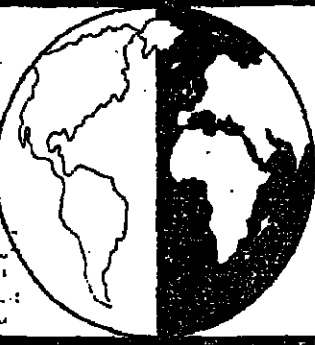
But prices are already higher than this on the spot market which Opec countries are using to fix their contracts for next year.

Oil companies in the United Kingdom have paid up to \$40 a barrel and prices as high as \$45 a barrel have been reported. These compare with the official price of only \$12.70 a year ago when petrol was 50p.

While moderate Opec leaders are trying to produce a formula to unify prices and reduce uncertainty, Japan continues to act aggressively in the spot market. This action to increase its stocks is keeping prices high.

It has also led to a sharp deterioration in Japan's relations with the United States. Washington has expressed uneasiness at Japan's purchasing of large quantities of the 700,000 barrels of crude a day from Iran which has been cut from American imports by President Carter's embargo.

Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, is reported to have described the Japanese behaviour as "insensitive". The State Department is understood to be drafting a letter to Mr Saburo Okita, the Japanese Foreign Minister.



W Germany extends £98m credit to China

West German banks have negotiated the first Deutsche Mark export credit to China in a deal likely to serve as a model for future projects.

The DM370m (about £98m) credit to the Bank of China will finance nearly 85 per cent of a DM440m mill contract to Mannesmann Demag AG for production of seamless steel tubes.

The credit, provided through AKA, a consortium of German banks, is understood to have a three-year period during which neither interest nor principal will be paid. Repayment then follows over four years.

This facility, which is likely to receive the maximum 95 per cent guarantee of the government-backed Hermes Credit Insurance, is the first tangible loan from German banks to China. Previous loan agreements between individual German banks and the Bank of China, denominated in dollars, have yet to be drawn down, according to reliable banking sources.

Australian surplus

Australia's balance of payments as measured by the official monetary movements showed a \$13m (about £670,000) surplus in November after a \$102m deficit in October. A trade surplus of \$434m was the second highest recorded since the start of an 18th century mill owner.

Italy pessimistic

Signor Gaetano Starnati, Italy's foreign trade minister, has predicted the nation's economic growth in 1980 will be "substantially flat". This is a pessimistic switch. In its budget proposals last September the Italian Cabinet predicted growth would rise 2.5 per cent in 1980.

Swiss jobs rise

Swiss unemployment rose 8.1 per cent in November from October, but still represents only 0.3 per cent of the country's total labour force. It was 25.6 per cent below the year-earlier level, according to the Swiss government's statistics office. The November total was 8,434 unemployed.

Energy costs up

Consumer prices in countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development rose 1.2 per cent in October, the same rate as in September, bringing the rise over a year to 11.1 per cent. The OECD in Paris points out, however, that the annual rate of increase over six months fell slightly to 12.7 per cent from 12.9 per cent a month earlier. The price rise largely reflects higher energy costs.

Trade surplus expected

The central bureau of statistics in Stockholm said industry expects Sweden to post a 375m krona (about £41,400,000) trade surplus in the first half of 1980, after a 2,400m krona deficit for the second half of 1979 and a 780m krona surplus for the first six months of 1979.

Chemical index higher

Index of Swiss chemical industry production in the third quarter rose to 225.3 (base 1965) an increase of 1.8 per cent from the second quarter and of 11.3 per cent from the same year ago level. The Chemical Industry Association said in Basle. In the first nine months output was 2.8 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

Salaries claim

Wage claims submitted on behalf of members of the West German Salaries Employees' Union for next year should aim for increases of between 7.5 and 9 per cent, the union's deputy chairman Gerda Hesse, said in Hamburg.

Canadian Budget introduces radical change in energy policy

Moving towards international oil price levels

Crude oil prices in Canada will more than double in the next four years under a plan presented to the House of Commons by Mr. John Crosbie, the Finance Minister.

The plan is to bring the Canadian price, now an exceptionally low \$Can13.75 a barrel up to a level just below the present international price by January 1, 1984. Prices charged by members of Opec generally range at present between \$Can20 and \$Can27, although spot purchases can cost \$Can46 or more per barrel.

Mr. Crosbie, presenting the Government's first budget since the Conservatives displaced the Liberals in office six months ago, called for increases of \$Can4 a barrel next year and \$Can4.50 in following years, to total \$Can17.50 by 1984.

In addition Canadian excise tax on petrol has been increased from the pre-

sented 7 cents a gallon to 25 cents, effective immediately, and the tax was extended to include all transportation fuels.

This measure by itself will boost the price of petrol in Toronto to around \$Can1.25 (almost 50p) a gallon. When the scheduled crude oil increases are implemented the price per gallon will rise to around \$Can2.70 (£1.06) by 1984.

Mr. Crosbie explained the increases were intended to reduce demand for oil, encourage exploration by oil companies to bring in new Canadian supplies, and encourage substitution of other energy sources.

"Our objective... is to move Canada rapidly away from dependence on oil imports and towards self-sufficiency by 1990", he said.

To stimulate substitution of natural gas for oil gas prices will continue to be pegged at 85 per cent of oil on present

production volumes, with the ratio being reduced to 65 per cent on additional volumes.

Canada has a plentiful supply of natural gas but has been running out of its once-bountiful reserves of crude oil.

Mr. Crosbie acknowledged that his pricing formula depended to a large extent on an agreement being reached with the producing provinces, especially Alberta, but did not say what the Federal Government would do if such an agreement was not reached. Intensive negotiations over a period of several months have so far failed.

Other elements of a tough budget included a 5 per cent surtax on corporate profits, a 10 per cent rise in taxes on tobacco products, and an increase in taxes on spirits, wine and beer.

John Best
in Ottawa

Minister seeks talks with Airfix

By David Felton

A government minister wants an urgent meeting with the management of Airfix Industries to ask them to explain the closure at 30 minutes' notice of the Meccano factory in Liverpool where 960 sacked workers are staging a sit-in.

Mr. David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Industry, met shop stewards and officials from the Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday in London and told them that if the circumstances of the closure were as the workers described "it would appear that the management had behaved like a caricature of an 18th century mill owner."

He said circumstances of the closure and the company's alleged non-compliance with the 90-day notice of redundancy requirement of the Employment Protection Act was being investigated by the Department of Employment.

The minister also agreed to ask the Department of Health and Social Security to expedite social security payments to the workers who were sacked 10 days ago. Shop stewards and union officials were accompanied at yesterday's meeting by Mr. Eric Heffer, Mr. Eric Ogden and Mr. David Alton, the MPs for Liverpool. Mr. Ogden said after the meeting that since the closure there had been inquiries from prospective customers for orders worth £500,000.

Mr. Frank Bloor, chairman of the factory's joint shop stewards committee, said the sit-in would continue until the 90 days notice of redundancy. The unions believed that the factory could be profitable. Mr. Alton, Liberal MP for Edge Hill said the minister had undertaken to look into the granting of government aid to Airfix.



Mr. Ashley Roebuck, Rolls-Royce vice chairman, left, and Dr. K. Imai, on behalf of Japanese companies, toast the signing of an airline engine design agreement yesterday in London. The deal is worth £250m.

US airline 'may drop use of Rolls engine'

By Arthur Reed

Eastern Airlines, the major United States operator, is studying actively the possibility of fitting American General Electric CF6-32 engines to its fleet of Boeing 757 aircraft instead of Rolls-Royce RB211-535s, according to a foreword in the 1979-80 *Jet World's Aircraft* published today.

Mr. John W. Taylor, editor, says that the managing director of Rolls-Royce's division has told his staff that "Boeing will never let the poor performance of a supplier stand in the way of their success" and that the potential sale of RB211s for 2,000 airplanes during the 1980s is in the balance.

At the time of writing the foreword the RB211-535 programme was eight weeks behind schedule.

Mr. Taylor writes: "Time is now running out for evidence of shrewd leadership at the top and commonsense will survive on the shop floor of Britain's aerospace industry. Without these once traditional virtues, all the skill and talent in the world are dross."

His warning comes at a time when Rolls-Royce is joining a new international project joint design of a commercial aeroplane to be carried out by Rolls and three Japanese companies under an agreement signed in London yesterday.

The design is for an engine of about 19,000lb thrust to enter service in 1985. It is intended for airliners of up to 150 seats and is based on the RB432 project. The Japanese companies working with Rolls are Ishikawajima Harima Heavy Industries, Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

The editor of *Jet World's Aircraft* is also critical in his foreword of present Government plans for the British aerospace industry. He says that the development of British Aerospace was showing signs of life by the beginning of 1979, including Britain's re-joining the European airbus programme.

Jet World's Aircraft, 1979-80, *Jet World's Yearbook*, 3, Shepherdess Walk, London N1 3ES.

Key role for America in fending off money crisis

From Peter Norman

Brussels, Dec 12

The United States can play a big role in fending off a crisis of confidence in the world's monetary and financial system by maintaining its policy of stabilizing the dollar exchange rate, according to Dr. Wilfried Guth, one of West Germany's leading bankers.

Dr. Guth, who is one of the two executives of the Deutsche Bank, told a press conference in Düsseldorf that the crisis in Iran had led to a precarious situation, but if common sense prevailed the damage to the world's economic system could be limited.

"The greatest triumph for Khomeini would be if we were to allow a collapse of the international financial system and the dollar", he said.

He argued that in continuing a strong dollar policy, President Carter would be aided by the improvement in the American balance of payments and West Germany's and Japan's movement into balance of payments deficit on current account.

Dr. Guth expressed similar cautious optimism on the future of the dollar and colleagues said that it was the duty of the international banks to maintain confidence in established market structures.

He saw no reason for the legal entanglements surrounding the servicing of Iranian debt to develop into a crisis on the markets. Iran was a special case he said, although he conceded that it would lead to banks adopting a more cautious attitude towards lending to foreign countries and possibly to a widening of margins in favour of the dollar.

Not only does Dr. Guth share the responsibility for running Germany's largest commercial bank, but he is also a trusted adviser of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Women candidates for top jobs

From Mrs V. J. Baumer

Sir, Mr. Arkle (December 5) states that he gets no women candidates for top management posts, but can himself see no reason for this.

As a woman who, at 22, is studying for professional accountancy examinations and has recently married, I would like to shed some light upon the black chasm in the mind of Mr. Arkle.

The women in Britain who do want a career have spent many years fighting conventions, and in Britain we all know how big a brick wall conventions and traditions can be, and now, due to their efforts, the wall is beginning to crumble.

Having won their right to "top jobs" the supply of suitably qualified women is not "suddenly" available. It will take time for the schoolgirls and female students of recent years to gain the experience necessary to be classed alongside the traditional 40-year-old holding executive, and I would suggest that, in 15 years' time, the number of women holding

executive positions will have increased, but never, Mr. Arkle, will you have as many women as men.

Personally I am quite prepared for the five years of study necessary to gain a professional qualification in order that I will always have the ability to earn a good living at an interesting job but, however career-minded a woman is, many like myself feel that an executive office is no substitute for motherhood.

Yours faithfully,
VICTORIA J. BAUMER,
The Lygon Arms,
Broadway,
Worcestershire,
December 5.

From Mrs Margaret Collingbourne

Sir, It is primarily a problem of age: getting a business appointment after graduation, with good qualifications (and the bonus of youth) is, for a female, not such an insurmountable problem.

In the 30s, however - when one has missed the quick promotions available to men in

their late 20s by having to head for 5-10 years toward next generation's source of power - it is extremely difficult to get the managerial equal to one's qualifications. And, if one should as fortunate as to find a thing demanding, the age seems to come before the age, and age necessary for senior management has been gained, with how many men age, who are not so seriously on the ground in their mid-40s?

If employers, when the paper sort through job applications, would mentally date years from the age of a woman candidate, we might have an interesting chance to prove us the necessary potential for top jobs.

Yours sincerely,
M. COLLINGBOURNE
BEEVERS,
Examining Officer,
London Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
Station Road,
Sidcup,
Kent.
December 5.

Alcoholism and the cost of drink

From Prof R. E. Kendall

Sir, Mrs Rosemary White is horrified by press reports that I stated at the World Health Assembly that governments must take legislative measures to reduce the consumption of alcohol.

The report she read was not wholly accurate. Although the World Health Assembly passed a resolution in May, 1979, recognising that problems related to alcohol rank among the world's major public health problems, and urging member states to "take all appropriate measures to reduce the consumption of alcohol among all categories of the population, the press report she read concerned a more recent meeting of a WHO Expert Committee.

Speaking in Geneva on behalf of that committee I said that I and colleagues from various countries, in the relationship between total consumption of alcoholic beverages and a wide range of medical and social ills that we were recommending that governments "take immediate steps to reduce consumption, and begin to reduce per capita consumption by reducing the availability of alcoholic beverages and by taking educational and legislative measures to reduce demand."

The committee did not recommend how this reduction

in consumption should be achieved, if only because circumstances vary so much from one country to another.

Your correspondent asks why I think that putting up the price will stop people drinking and suggests that those who drink to excess will continue to do so, whatever the price.

The answer to her question is that there is historical evidence in this country and more recent evidence from several other countries that consumption shows a consistent tendency to rise and fall with changes in price relative to average disposable income.

There is also good evidence that when consumption falls as a result of price increases or other legislative changes, the incidence of readily measurable phenomena like arrests for public drunkenness, deaths from cirrhosis, and hospital admissions for alcoholism and delirium tremens also fall, and this would not happen if excessive drinkers did not drink less under these circumstances.

It is also important to appreciate that the cost of alcoholic drink relative to average disposable income has been falling steadily in the United Kingdom for the past two decades because the effective level of taxation has been allowed to fall, and that this is the case in most other developed countries. The steady rise in consumption that has occurred during this

period, at the risk of a flying start, corresponds to a rise in the price of alcohol from France and that even her modest contention of two glasses of wine a day is associated with increased risk of liver disease.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. KENDALL,
Professor of Psychiatry,
University of Edinburgh,
December 6.

From Mr Patrick N. Orr

Sir, With reference to Rosemary White's (December 3), has Mrs J. Baumer heard of the many ways of drinking, other than "grogginess"? If "grogginess" is the only effect, as Professor Kendall suggested at the assembly, a fall in consumption will most certainly be a fall in alcoholism, and not be able to afford to be so much.

She rightly states that petrol prices have not so people driving, how people do drive has a lot to do with it. A high price will stamp out demand for a modify; it will, how reduce it.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK N. ORR,
Cavendish Hall,
Cavendish Street,
Aldershot,
Hampshire,
December 3.

Support for fish farming

From The Director-General, the National Water Council

Sir, I read both articles by A. Gleason and R. Kendall (December 3) with great interest, and would like to comment.

First, it seems to me that the authors' views concerning management with direction. To be a competent manager, one must know which way one's control make the operation tick, and which are the directions likely to lead to increased profit. Accountants, by their training, are well placed to have no introduction to what makes even systems and equipment tick. Looking at cost sheets will never divulge them. Long experience may, hence accountants may be the source of some direction, but never management, unless of other accountants.

Secondly, while one hears quite a lot about the poor standing of engineers versus sales, finance, etc, it is quite interesting that the profitable organisations "recruit the majority of their executive directors from those who compete manage the producing unit, not accountants. In fact, surprising how high the proportion of the executive boss based on science trained people."

In case a reader thinks an accountant I assure that like all competent people I have a lot to offer. I have an occupation. I always occupy myself. I always tell me how to make a profit. I never run a business on a basis. I run it on use of and materials in relation to put in general, on no more a daily return. The routine sheets were used by me and staff to decide the most target for cost reduction. accountants would never be to tell me where the great rewards lay for the least of And I didn't need a data accountant to tell me that job was to maximise profit. Yours faithfully,
J. F. ELLIS,
10, Cavendish Lane,
Middlesex TW5 7RL,
December 5.

Role of accountants in the running of a company

From Mr J. F. Ellis

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J. F. ELLIS,
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Middlesex TW5 7RL,
December 5.

Enterprise the 'basis for creating wealth'

By Peter Hill

Encouragement of the entrepreneur and enhancement of the engineering profession were identified by Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, last night as crucial to the revitalisation of Britain's industrial base.

He suggested that both should be accorded the highest priority if society was to recognise the importance of creating wealth rather than its redistribution. Both, he said, were proposals for using the country's resources more effectively.

Presenting the Hawksley Lecture at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Sir Peter traced the decline of British manufacturing performance but said that the decline was not inherently irreversible.

On poor productivity, he suggested that macro-economic factors such as the level of the exchange rate might be much less important than a combination of managerial and labour practices in explaining international differences in output per head. Studies supported the idea that

impediments to mobility of labour between industries might be partly responsible for Britain's relatively low level of output per man.

Recent surveys by economic forecasting organisations suggested that Britain could well be heading in the short term for an absolute decline in its wealth measured by gross domestic product but that the country was not going to accept the logical translation of that decline into its earnings.

"The further ahead you look, the more disturbing the underlying trends appear," said Sir Peter, adding that North Sea oil and gas was, to a great extent, cushioning the country from the consequences of poor manufacturing performance. This made it all the more difficult to bring home the message of relative decline.

"In developing our society, we have too often ignored the virtues of enterprise. It is enterprise which lies at the base of our ability to create wealth."

Government, he said, could only control the framework in which enterprise could flourish, and this it was seeking to do through its fiscal policies.

Tape supply threat to computer companies

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

The planned supply of magnetic tape units for three leading computer companies—Control Data and NCR in the United States and International Computers Ltd (ICL) in Britain—is threatened by development problems at a jointly owned subsidiary company, CPI Data Peripherals, of Stevenage.

The parent of the Stevenage company is Computer Peripherals Inc (CPI), of Minneapolis, which was set up in 1972 by Control Data and NCR. ICL joined in 1975. CPI is now owned 60 per cent by Control Data and 20 per cent each by NCR and ICL.

CPI's task is to develop and make magnetic tape units and units primarily for the computer systems of the three parent companies. About 100 of the 300 people employed at the Stevenage subsidiary have been developing an advanced tape system known as the ATS-3. The remaining 200 make printers.

In the view of the parent companies, it is now unlikely that the ATS-3 will be accept-

able for their computer systems, mainly for reasons of cost and delivery dates. The viability of the project is doubtful, and the probability is that the Stevenage tape activity will be ended soon.

A spokesman for CPI in Minneapolis confirmed yesterday that a thorough evaluation of the project was under way, with a decision on whether or not to continue due to be made in January. The printer manufacturing activity at Stevenage, he said, was likely to be preserved.

There has been no single technical problem in connection with the ATS-3, it is understood, but a gradually worsening cost-effectiveness as the development has been prolonged. It has been under development for more than two years.

Recently Mr Peter Sachs, the managing director of CPI Data Peripherals, left the company. Yesterday, Mr Jim Holbrook, acting managing director, was referring all inquiries about the company (including the number of employees at Stevenage) to Minneapolis.

'UK gain' from ending flags of convenience

By Michael Bailly

British shipping could be a leading beneficiary if the United Nations committee for Trade and Development is able to carry out its threat to phase out flags of convenience on the world's oceans.

This unexpected conclusion is taken from a new study by the Economist Intelligence Unit, an American shipping interests, who own about a third of the world's 200 million deadweight tons or \$17,000m worth of flags of convenience shipping, and therefore feel themselves threatened by possible UNCTAD moves.

According to the EIU report measures against flags of convenience would probably result in the transfer of tonnage not to developing countries but to "quasi-flags of convenience" in the low cost OECD countries such as Britain, Greece and Spain.

The report is to be published in January along with UNCTAD's studies on the subject currently being carried out on an instruction from last May's UNCTAD conference in Manila.

Lake & Elliot, Ltd.

HIGH INTEGRITY STEEL CASTINGS,
INDUSTRIAL & MARINE VALVES
AND HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st July, 1979

	1979	1978
Group Turnover	£21,283m	£18,835m
Group Trading Profit	£1,939m	£1,621m
Earnings per Ordinary Share	14.0p	12.7p
Ordinary Dividend	4.7p	3.898p

"With increases of 13% in Sales and 19.5% in Trading profit we have had a year of steady progress, against a background of declining demand."

In common with other companies in the Engineering Industry, most of our work force was involved in the engineers' national dispute, and overtime bans and strikes have had their inevitable effect upon the first two months of the current year.

Meanwhile, our order books remain steady and we continue to seek new markets and opportunities at home and overseas."

Peter Lake, Chairman

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary,
City Gate House, 39/45 Embsay Square, London E.C.2.

Business appointments

New chief executive at Rhodesian bank

Mr A. Wren is to assume the duties of chief executive of The Standard Bank in Southern Rhodesia in succession to Mr J. S. Davidson. Mr Davidson will be joining the bank's London management as general manager on special duties linked to the development of international business with Southern Rhodesia.

Mr Tim Wade has recently been appointed director and general manager of Shaw Timber.

Mr W. M. Ramachandran is to become director of international operations of West Pumps. He is at present managing director of the West Group's associate company Walborn-West-Pumps of Zaragoza, Spain. Mr T. Motherwell has been made executive director of the company's spare and service division, of which he was formerly customer service manager. And Mr G. W. Smith, who has been company secretary since 1976, also becomes an executive director.

Mr E. S. Booth is now a director of British Electricity International and consultant to the Electricity Council.

Mr J. L. Stretch has been appointed by Imperial Continental Gas Association as director of oil operations with effect from February 1, 1980. He will take executive responsibility for all

IC Gas's oil and related gas developments, including those of Century Power and Light of which subsidiary company Mr Stretch has been made managing director and Mr H. J. Buckley executive director. Mr B. H. Wilson will succeed Mr Stretch as IC Gas group financial controller. He will retain his present position as group financial controller at Calor Gas Holding Company but will remain a director.

Mr Graham Turner is now managing director of Irvine Pumps.

Mr R. L. Black has become an associate director of GEI International.

Mr Frank W. Jones has joined the board of Giddings & Lewis Fraser.

Mr Richard Borell, a director of Instock Johnson and managing director of Instock Products, its principal United Kingdom operating company, has been made operations director of Instock Johnson.

Mr J. B. Williams has been appointed to the board of Sellafield Chemicals (E.C.C.), the building division subsidiary of British Nuclear Fuels.

Mr R. A. West has been appointed finance director of Redington Appliances Controls.

EDUCATIONAL

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Putting in another tier

achieved some success over the past of years with a revival of its 163(2) for unlisted securities, the Stock Exchange is going one step further and proposing a new and additional unlisted tier.

This tier will attract companies unable to meet the onerous requirements for full listing but who nevertheless enjoy being part of the stock market and some of the benefits available in the senior, or top tier market.

The purpose of doing this now may not be clear, especially to those who do not enter the Rule 163(2) market. But apart from the Stock Exchange's commendable aim of encouraging growth of developing businesses, it is also an awareness that the Wilson Committee could suggest something along these lines when it reports next year and that the M. L. H. Committee's review over-the-counter has gathered up several pieces of potential business.

proposed market looks a much more serious alternative to Nightingale 163(2) will continue. Rule 163(2) is generally designed for low profile companies who wanted to stay that way and had not been potentially dangerous discredited by being more or less unregulated.

act being imposed by the sponsor than the Stock Exchange. Regardless the Stock Exchange may be the new USM against its own best interests. It would undoubtedly have to avoid such fraying at the edges, for all attacks of the fragmentation used to worry people so much a few ago. But the new issue market has led for too long and shows so few signs of reviving that the Stock Exchange afford to take any other view at the time this "transitional market" where the cost of entry are less rigid, those for a listing, where the dangers of losing control of their companies are eliminated and from where it is easier to gain entry to the senior

Nightingale meanwhile it looks like formidable competition for just as it is. Ariel threatened its traditional business a few years ago, the Exchange is moving effectively in its monopoly.

der business has never been the same since duty was levied for the first time over two years ago and Bulmer as a one-product company has had a time ever since trying to plug the gap.

latest half-year figures, showing profits before exceptional up from £2m to £8m, managed to impress the market.



Sir John Bulmer, Chairman of Bulmer.

the shares gained a couple of pence. But Bulmer is unlikely ever to see the sort of returns it made out of 1977.

ing margins on cider have improved period from 11.8 to 12.5 per cent, to an 8 per cent price increase and a raw material costs owing to the apple crop last year, but that is some down on the 15 per cent the group d at its peak. And cider sales are a y deficit from the 7 per cent contribution in the early 1970s and Bulmer

has had to spend heavily on promotion to keep sales even 2 per cent ahead in the latest period.

As it is, Bulmer is making only hesitant steps to move away from its cider roots. Wines and spirits are doing well enough but are still only 3 per cent of trading profits while the moves overseas to Australia and the United States are small in scale and ambition.

Borrowings have continued to escalate and will be some £2m higher at £9.5m next April but gearing will only be 40 per cent and the rise is hopefully temporary while the funding of last year's exceptional apple crop continues.

But a likely yield of just over 7 per cent with profits this year still some way away from the £3.9m peak is little enough support for a company that needs to find another profits leg to stand on.

Marley's profits were almost exactly as forecast. They rose £3.5m to £22.1m, again demonstrating the building products and do-it-yourself company's ability to locate new markets. The final dividend was 3.57p, bringing the year's payout to 5.7p, an increase of 44 per cent, at the net level.

The weak link was the United Kingdom. A poor winter depressed first-half results, so that trading profit at home grew just £533,000 to £15.1m. But these circumstances are not likely to be repeated. Marley expects that trading profit next year will be much the same as this, and any reduction in profits on the construction side will be offset by stronger DIY sales with floorspace in retail stores nearly doubling in 1980 to 720,000 sq ft.

And whatever happens at home, overseas sales seem set for a further substantial rise. Trading profit abroad went up by £4.28m to £11.9m, with South Africa, France, Canada and Eire particularly strong.

Acquisitions in the United States and Brazil accounted for about £8m of the £19m increase in borrowings to a total of £51m. But at that rate, gearing is still low and the leasing operation continues to work its magic on tax liabilities.

Profits next year of £26m are easily within reach, with the present dividend cover of 4.4 allowing the payout again to be raised faster than profits go up. At 78p the shares yield 7.3 per cent.

Marley

Finding new markets

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Guthrie

Underlying potential

Plantation shares have hardly looked back since Sir David Guthrie brought asset values into the open through its abortive bid for Guthrie Corporation earlier this year.

It is no surprise then that Guthrie shares yesterday shrugged off signs that the group is likely to miss its £30m profit forecast for the full year by a fair margin. Although not up to best hopes, interim profits are 90 per cent ahead at £9.1m thanks to burgeoning plantation profits, on the back of firm rubber and palm oil prices, and a quite dramatic recovery in the United States manufacturing operations.

Against this meagre losses mainly from the carpets and textile operations in the United Kingdom and Australia and trading losses in Africa and the Middle East are a drag on profits. However, sterling strength and rising interest rates are the main reasons that Guthrie seems unlikely to manage much more than £27.5m for the full year against £20.5m.

This points to a p/e of around 13 and yield of at least 6.7 per cent on the forecast payment with the shares easing 5p to 589p yesterday.

This rating reflects a net asset value of 628p as well as the attractions of a growing Malaysian economy, and commodities in general, and to some extent hopes that Sir David will return to the fray next March.

The last possibility is beginning to seem unlikely. Although ending of exchange controls would mean Sir David could use its shares to bid next time, the run up in the share price could have put its quarry beyond reach for the moment.

Even if the price rises just in

Economic notebook

Oiling the wheels of the Exchequer

The western world is bracing itself for still higher oil prices after next week's meeting of the oil exporters in Caracas. But for the British Government the cloud of dearer oil has a silver lining.

For every 10 per cent that the oil price is pushed up, the Government's revenues from the North Sea rise by more than 10 per cent. Although these revenues have had only a marginal impact on government finances, they will become an increasingly important factor in the equation of public spending, borrowing and taxation.

The rise in oil prices which has already taken place this year has thrown out most estimates, including those of the Government, of the effects of North Sea production on the British economy. Higher than expected prices have an effect on the estimated benefits of North Sea oil both to Britain's balance of payments and to the Government's tax receipts.

Of course, higher oil prices outweigh these benefits in the long run. If Opec pushes the price up significantly next week, as it almost certainly will, there will be many unpleasant consequences for the world economy which will naturally damage Britain too.

World inflation will probably accelerate, growth will slow down and there will be increased instability in the international financial markets as wage payments imbalances build up.

So far most discussion of the economic effects of the North Sea has concentrated on the balance of payments improvement and the consequent effect on the pound's exchange rate. As Britain has moved towards oil self-sufficiency, and as oil-dominated foreign exchange markets have buoyed up sterling, this emphasis has been timely.

However, Britain is moving into a period when the flood of North Sea oil money into the

line with inflation, the Government can expect to get about £10,000m of tax relating to 1985 production, according to the Institute's calculations. This compares with expected North Sea revenues of about £2,000m to £2,500m this financial year.

The Government is apparently reluctant to make detailed projections of its North Sea revenues, although it is clear that officials believe the national figures to be on the high side.

The Inland Revenue has not in the past made forecasts of expected revenues from any tax. However, there are at least two reasons for supposing that the Government should join private stockbrokers and economists in attempting some sums on oil taxes.

First, the Government has to produce some revenue projections in connection with its suggested medium-term financial plan—even though it looks increasingly unlikely that such a plan will see the light of day.

Secondly, oil revenues could be large enough to change significantly the structure of taxes in Britain over the next few years. In recent years the personal sector has shouldered more and more of the tax burden with a corresponding decline in the proportion of corporation tax paid.

In some people's wilder dreams, the profits from the North Sea could mean that companies pay enough to the Government to let the rest of us off income tax altogether or wipe out the Government's borrowing requirement.

Although this is almost inconceivable, it is true that oil revenues may save the Government from putting up income tax or even enable it to knock a few pence more off the standard rate in the years after 1980.

The Treasury's latest estimates, published in August, suggest that the North Sea tax take would total about £4,750m in 1978 prices by the mid 1980s.

For comparison, the Government raised £18,750m from income tax during 1978-79 and had a total borrowing requirement of £9,251m, with a target of £8,300m for this year.

Since the Treasury based its figure on the assumption of a falling real sterling price of oil, it is already outdated by this year's price rises.

Stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie are updating their latest estimates to take account of the recent surge in oil price rises. They expect North Sea revenues to rise to well over £10,000m in money terms by the mid-1980s.

There is no simple relationship between rises in the oil price and the increase in government revenues. There are three different sources of revenue—the corporation tax and petroleum revenue tax. The last two rise more than proportionately with the price, as increased profits bring more fields into the tax net and as the fixed costs which have been written off in the early years of production do not rise with the price.

The sharp rises in oil prices which have already taken place this year, even with the prospect of more to come next week, have apparently influenced the Government's depletion policy in the North Sea. Until now the Treasury has resisted any attempts to slow down oil production.

This week, however, Mr David Howell, the Energy Secretary, hinted that the Government intends to have a positive depletion policy. Depletion means that Britain can afford to keep it longer in the ground.

Unfortunately, the prospects for the economy are so dismal that North Sea oil is more likely to cause misery than to solve any problems. The oil-induced increase in government revenues may well be eaten up as quickly as the balance of payments benefits have so far been devoured.

Even if the price rises just in

line with inflation, the Government can expect to get about £10,000m of tax relating to 1985 production, according to the Institute's calculations. This compares with expected North Sea revenues of about £2,000m to £2,500m this financial year.

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A bigger recycling role for the IMF?



Mr David Rockefeller, chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank: the banks face growing risks.

New York

Many oil-importing nations will face balance of payments difficulties next year and acute strains may be placed on the international financial system. The precise nature of the problems which emerge will depend on the attitudes of commercial banks and the International Monetary Fund towards lending to deficit nations and the ability of the fund and the banks to provide adequate resources.

Mr David Rockefeller, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, says that the real problem is that the risks in lending to many of the oil-importing developing countries have increased and in many cases banks are reaching their lending limits for individual countries.

The truth is simply that many of the countries that used to be relatively easy to service capabilities now shoulder very heavy debt loads. To add to these debt loads is to increase the risk banks have to take. In view of this Mr Rockefeller has no doubt that the IMF will have to play a much bigger role.

Surplus

What makes the outlook so worrying is the sheer dimensions of the problem. Mr Rockefeller expects the combined surplus of the oil exporting nations this year to total \$55,000m and to rise to possibly \$75,000m in 1980. These vast amounts have to be recycled to the oil importers to enable them to pay their oil bills.

A large part of this recycling may well have to be undertaken by the IMF in due course and Mr Rockefeller is worried about this. He was not certain that the IMF would have sufficient capabilities for some time.

He does not see the problem for the banks being a shortage of deposits by oil exporters and says that, despite the Carter Administration's freezing of Iranian assets, there has been no change whatsoever in Chase's relations with other oil-exporting countries. Nor does he expect any change in the

But informal talks are taking place more frequently between the fund and the banks and cooperation has been experienced more often in the future, he says, as the way that the banks, together with the fund, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Turkish Government, worked collectively together to help with Turkey's financial crisis.

So far, few officials in international organizations and national governments have shown much concern in public for next year's recycling problems. The worries of the bankers seem valid enough and perhaps it is high time that officials at least prepared for the creation of some new kind of facility, or some sort of international financial safety net.

Mr Rockefeller is not alone in expressing his worries. Mr Rimmer de Vries, a senior vice-president at Morgan Guaranty Trust, said in Paris recently that the foreign investments and cash assets of Opec were likely to rise to \$300,000m in 1980 from \$160,000m at the end of 1978.

Tensions

The commercial banks would be unable to handle such vast sums, he said, and because of rising risks they would be unable to lend to growing numbers of developing countries.

The official authorities must do more of the lending and take over steps to reduce the monetary tensions that could emerge as Opec handles such huge assets.

As one listens to the bankers one is forced to the conclusion that for a variety of reasons the nervousness and sense of uncertainty in financial markets may be greater next year than this. There is no alternative now other than to welcome much greater IMF and official involvement in the financial aspects of Opec's surpluses.

One must hope that action is taken in good time to ensure that crises do not develop, rather than that, as so often in the past, officials decide that action is needed only after all manner of grave difficulties have surfaced.

Frank Vogl

Killing Leyland with kindness

Michael Grylls

MPs of all parties admire the achievements of Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of British Leyland. He has brought back respect for management and he has cut over-managing by 18,000 jobs.

But he has still to prove that he can run a profitable motor car company.

If the public were asked whether the Government should put more taxpayer's money into BL, the answer would be a resounding "No". As so often, the public would be right.

Yet, we are told, "without more money BL is dead". This is simply not true.

Since it was rescued Leyland has had hundreds of millions of pounds from the Government. Yet, despite this largesse from the taxpayer, it built 400,000 fewer vehicles last year than it did seven years ago, and its United Kingdom market share has slumped from 32 per cent to 16 per cent.

Where has all the money gone? Some has been spent on new plant and machinery; Leyland today has some very modern factories. But much has gone simply to meet losses due to strikes.

The core of BL's trouble is low productivity. In 1972 it was six vehicles per man year; in 1978 it was down to four vehicles per man year. Continental companies achieve twenty vehicles per man year and the Japanese attain twice that figure.

A year ago the National

Enterprise Board told MPs that Leyland's productivity was expected to rise by 18.5 per cent. In fact it dropped by 3 per cent.

Yet, if Leyland were to get back to 1972 productivity figures it would be generating good profits and the taxpayer would be let off the hook.

Unbelievably, despite Leyland's poor performance, its workers today are demanding an extra £1250 a year—a bit cheeky when the company is seeking further money handouts from the long-suffering taxpayer.

The Prime Minister says that the Government will not finance excessive wage claims from the public sector. Surely any wage claim from an ailing company such as BL is excessive? This is another reason for Parliament to refuse BL further cash.

Leyland has suffered enough from easy money from the taxpayer. Governments have clutched at every straw to justify more money, despite the company's making fewer vehicles and negligible profits.

Success is always "just around the corner".

The truth is that today Leyland needs nothing but that most difficult of remedies for a politician to prescribe. It needs to be left alone.

Every parent knows that you can kill with kindness—and that might just happen to British Leyland.

The author is Vice-chairman, Conservative Industry Committee.

Business Diary: Why Gilchrist went • Macmillan ahoy

by was Archie Gilchrist, dismissed as chief of Govan Shipbuilders Clyde? by any standards he had success of bringing a new ship to the yards of Upper Clyde. Demarcation had productivity had and the 13 ships in which order were common without incurring penalties.

roy workers agreed to 1,800 redundancies at d.

hypotheses are current, it is a man with a direct perhaps too direct for a of British Shipbuilders' fact that British Shipbuilders even considered that it might meekly resign a basic misunderstanding, their man.

was the success at in industrial relations, consider this was almost and that the balance at the yard had been weighed no favourably a the shop stewards there was the Polish the ships have been kept, but at great cost at Govan last year, rise to £13m and this year, rise to nearer £20m. The "cause" has been the order.

contract was negotiated with Shipbuilders with backing of the Labour ment which was about the loss of jobs. In all, the shrewdness of able shipbuilding, on side appears to have been rather unfairly around let's neck.

Nathalie Hogg (right) seems to have an excellent chance of becoming one of France's youngest lady managing directors, although she no doubt wishes the opportunity came elsewhere, and by any other means.

Her father, Robert Hogg, chairman of the jewellers Cartier, was a resistance fighter who survived Blois concentration camp to be killed by a car as he left his Paris office at the weekend.

Nathalie, 28, had been nominated head of Cartier's high jewellery division and, Alan Perrin head of the Cartier pens and leather goods activities. Hogg gave made his mark in business as head of the Silver Match lighter company. He pushed first gas lighters, then disposable refills and helped give France its lead in throw-away lighters.



In 1972 he was brought in by Rothschilds and Paribas to give some polish to the affairs of the lacklustre Cartier.

Little has been heard of Maurice—son of Harold—Macmillan since his brief spell as Secretary of State for Employment in the Heath government.

With the little job he has picked up this week, however, he is back on the scene in his politically most contentious role since 1974 and the three-day week.

Macmillan is to be a non-executive director of the Glasgow maritime engineering consultants, Yarrow and Company. Nothing very interesting about that, you might think, since Yarrow likes to have a Tory politician around the place.

In June this year, for example, it piped aboard Baroness Srimathir of Quarter, but she died last month. As Betty Harvie Anderson, the Tory MP for Renfrew East, she had been what the company's chairman Sir Eric Yarrow has called "a staunch friend and supporter of the company for many years."

It is mildly interesting that the new boy is the MP for Farnham, Surrey, has a country place in Gloucestershire and is chairman of the family publishing firm—and therefore not perhaps best known for his love of going down to the sea in ships. It is interesting, if a little confusing, that he is going as it will be in the Yarrow boardroom where they already have one Macmillan, the company secretary.

But, then, that would be to overlook the fact that Sir Eric, despite his affection for Tory MPs, is no longer best known

for his love of Tory ministers. This is because his maritime engineering consultancy was once a shipbuilder, until two years ago when Labour ministers nationalised that part of the business.

Now Tory ministers, in particular Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, plan no longer to denationalise the yards, although the party manifesto last year said Sir Eric to think otherwise.

Sir Eric wanted his yard back and is gloomy about getting compensation that reflects his estimate of asset value and prospects at the time Yarrow (Shipbuilders) "went public".

He cannot even get anywhere with Sir Keith's law over about £1m of Yarrow (Shipbuilders) pre-nationalisation profits. Sir Eric says these have been "virtually confiscated".

Sir Eric, therefore, would seem more than ever in need of another "staunch friend and supporter." Who better than Macmillan, a former Tory minister and one of the party's Toffery?

This being the stamp-ticking season, I thought my eightpenny ones might catch better than the others, so I asked the Post Office if they had changed the gum. No, they said, it just tastes worse if you have been drinking—which I had—or if you have been eating smoked salmon—which I had not. Wonder if a tenpenny coin is more than an exact size or weight of smoked salmon?

Ross Davies

Redfearn National Glass

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Year ended 30 September 1979

	1979 £'000	1978 £'000
Sales	55,968	48,045
Trading Profit	4,360	4,420
Interest payable (net)	1,047	521
Profit before tax	3,313	3,899
Retained Profit	2,011	2,530
Dividend per share	16.55p	15.84p
Earnings per ordinary share	49.67p	58.80p

Mr. John Pratt, Chairman, reports:

"Profits for the year ended 30 September amounted to £3,300,000. This is a reduction of £600,000 compared with the previous year's figure."

It will be apparent to shareholders that, after the trading results of the first half, recovery in the second half of the year was rapid and largely successful.

Last year I said that the level of capital expenditure for 1978/79 would be substantially lower and the actual total for the year was £3.7m. Despite the difficulties created by the road haulage strike—and the state of competition—there has been a net cash inflow during the year.

Despite present economic uncertainties, we have great confidence in glass as a packaging medium. Results for the full year 1979/80 are likely to be comparable with those of 1978/79."

The Directors recommend that a final ordinary dividend of 11.27p per share be paid for the year ended 30 September 1979, making a total of 16.55p per share for the year. This compares with 15.84p per share in respect of 1978 and, with the addition of the associated tax credit, maintains the gross dividend at the same rate as last year.

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 15 January 1980 and the Annual General Meeting will be held at the Royal Station Hotel, York at 12 noon on Wednesday 13 February 1980.

REDFEARN NATIONAL GLASS, FISHERGATE, YORK, YO1 4AD.

Greene Greene

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

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Our client, the chairman of a large leisure group located south of London, seeks to appoint a personal assistant/secretary to commence in February 1980.

This demanding job requires a person 25+ without personal ties. An outgoing personality and smart appearance together with the ability to liaise at all levels are essential. Applicants should possess good secretarial skills, a clean driving licence and be free to travel as and when required.

For further details telephone Barbara Storr (Travel Personnel) Ltd, Specialist Recruitment Consultants, on 01-493 7892/3.

P.A. SECRETARY

required for senior partner international firm of Consulting Engineers. This position would suit a single, enthusiastic person with first-class secretarial/PA skills, who likes variety in her work. Applicants must have previous experience at senior level, as they will be dealing with clients and contacts all over the world. Brand new office accommodation with excellent salary and benefits. Apply in writing with detailed C.V. to: Miss J. Young, 4 Manchester Square, London, W1A 1AU.

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Secretary

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Good judgment and ability to produce and develop ideas together with fluency in writing and practical outlook are essential.

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Preferably with shorthand in both languages and with some knowledge of legal and commercial terms.

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The Deputy Chief Executive of a small City Bank requires competent Secretary with previous experience at senior level. A good standard of shorthand, typing presentation and fluency in English are essential requirements. Excellent salary and working conditions. Telephone Miss Pegg 01-263 4041

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Does the ideal candidate exist? We think so. We are looking for a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA. The successful candidate will be a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA. The successful candidate will be a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA.

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This member of the aristocracy is 28 years old and desperately needs an exceptional personal assistant to deal with his investment, tax and business deals in films and the theatre. In his world business and the social scene are inseparable, so you'll need to be a professional with fluency in a Latin based language and a lot of drive.

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£6,000

General administration, meeting and looking after visitors, and organising boardroom lunches. The successful candidate will be a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA. The successful candidate will be a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA.

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TO £5,500

Secretary to two young American Directors of small Merchant Bank. Fast paced not essential but loads of contacts, lovely offices and friendly atmosphere. Age 25-35.

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FIELD SALES GROUP HEAD

SPECIALIST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

A specialist weekly newspaper, market leader in its field, with sales of 100,000 copies per week is seeking a Group Head for its advertising department field sales team. The task is to provide effective sales leadership, motivation and organisation of the team. This will be achieved by personal direct sales effort as well as team effort. Great importance will be placed on the acquisition and development of new business.

Candidates, aged 27-35, must have experience in media selling, including agency contact and leading a sales team or group. Some formal sales and sales management training experience is also essential. The job is based in central London but will involve some travel throughout the U.K.

The company is a subsidiary of a large publishing group and has expanding considerably in the last three years. There are long-term plans for a programme of sustained growth and development. This position could lead to further career steps for the right candidate. Benefits include a salary of £25,000 plus bonus potential, a company car, pension scheme, 4 weeks holiday, modern well appointed offices and the support of professional sales and marketing aids.

Write, including a curriculum vitae, for an application form to the company's advisers:

SUSAN MORSE ADVISORY SERVICES, Bourton, Bishops Cleeves, Leicestershire NN10 2LR

branch manager

We are the subsidiary of a large French steel manufacturing company.

Our office in Birmingham will be a small operating company mainly concerned with the marketing of our products.

We would like to meet a British person who is fully experienced in sales and marketing in industry or industrial goods, and able to sell, and in the future really manage a small team of salesmen, administration officers and staff.

A university degree and spoken French would be advantages but are not compulsory.

First interviews will take place in London shortly.

Please forward your curriculum vitae to: No. 4362, Gérard Desjeux

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DRIVE 28, av. de Messine 75008 PARIS

The people in charge of our recruitment.

APPEALS ORGANISERS

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund is entirely dependent on voluntary support and its laboratories in London constitute the largest independent cancer research centre in Europe.

The Appeals Department consists of a select team at headquarters and in the regions.

Two organisers are required for:

(a) London (GLC Area)

(b) North West of England

to raise funds for, and to inform people of, the Fund's important cancer research programmes.

Applicants should be aged 30-45 with experience of public speaking, have a pleasant personality and be able to communicate with the general public. Salary commensurate with responsibilities, plus car and reasonable expenses.

For further information write or telephone Miss S. M. Burley, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2. Tel. 242 0200, ext. 305, quoting reference (a) or (b).

Progressive and substantial UK Record Company requires top grade

Must be qualified accountant and must have substantial experience in running of financial department, preferably in the music business. Must have analytical business mind and be totally involved in all aspects of the financial running of the company.

Rewards for the successful applicant include a high salary, company car, annual bonus scheme, PPP membership etc.

Please reply in confidence to Box 0156 F, The Times

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habitat

need a Press Officer

to join the Group Press Office in Covent Garden

The successful candidate will have at least two years PR experience with an agency, in retailing, or home journalism. Be aware that PR is hard work and not glamour. To work as a member of a team to promote Habitat UK within the framework of their marketing policy, being responsible to the Director of Public Relations.

The job involves product PR, store openings and promotions, maintaining the photographic library, assisting editing and producing the in-house magazine and general office administration. Typing essential.

Age 23-27 years. Salary up to £6,200 plus Christmas bonus, employee share scheme and 20% discount at Habitat stores.

Write to: Mrs. V. Pepper, Director of Public Relations, 28 Neal Street, London WC2H 9PH.

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BBC ASSISTANT, TOPICAL TALKS UNIT

ARABIC SERVICE

£3,385-£8,405 p.a.

Duties include writing and editing topical material and general talks for translation and broadcasting in Arabic Service programmes. Must have good general knowledge of international affairs and home politics, proven ability to write fluently and concisely in Arabic and work quickly under pressure in the context of a fluid and constantly changing situation. Special knowledge of Arab countries and the Middle East, residence or travel in the area and previous experience of working on affairs in this field would be a considerable advantage. Starting salary according to qualifications and experience. Based in London. Relocation expenses considered. Contact an immediately for application form and details. Tel: 01-580 4488, ext. 4918.

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SECRETARIAL

DIRECTOR'S P.A.

Assistant to young executive. Must be a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA. The successful candidate will be a person who is a professional, efficient, and capable Secretary/PA.

Ring Ann-Marie 789 0008

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.
1.00 Peppermint at One: A live report from the deck of HMS Dreadnought, a nuclear submarine. Also Tony Blair's movie spot.
1.45 The Flumpers: story for children. Grandfather's Birthday (r). Close Down at 2.00.
2.55 Play School: the story is The Willow Pattern. The storyellers are Carol Chell and Ben Bantler.
4.20 Deputy Dawg: cartoon. Low Man (r).
4.25 Jackanory: John Grant reads his story Littlestone's Birthday.
4.40 Screen Test: Movie quiz, with Margaret Kelly, based on a "travelling" girl who, though, was illiterate. She learnt her lines by what she was told.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround: junior news.
5.05 Blue Peter: Lighting the first candle on the Advent Crown.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as BBC 1. 3.55. Close Down at 11.55.
4.50 pm Open University. 4.50-5.00 Preparing Maths: angles; 5.05 Seeing Through Drawings.
5.40 Laurel and Hardy: Our Wife. Oliver gets married—but not to his intended. This short comedy contains the famous sequence where three squeals into a day car scarcely big enough for one.
5.55 Ffms: Turned Out Nice Again (1941). Probably the best of all George Formby's comedies, this is the one in which his mother (Elliott Mason) insists on accompanying him on his honeymoon.
7.15 News with subtitles for the hard of hearing.

THAMES

9.30 Once Upon a Time: story for children. The Runaway Sun.
9.45 This England: documentary about the British soldiers who returned to Normandy, scene of the D-Day landings.
10.15 Family: American domestic dramas. The story of a homeless black boy.
11.05 Survival Special: Come into My Parlor. Peter Ustinov and the world of the spider.
11.55 The Bubbles: cartoon. The Whindmill.
12.00 Animal Kwackers: stories about animals and music.
12.10 pm Pinks: the story of Poppy's Place.
12.30 The Sullivan: Australian family series. The collapse of Harry Sullivan.
1.00 News. 1.30 Thames News.
1.30 Armchair Theatre: The Limbo

Wavelengths: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1080kHz or 285m/1063kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330/990kHz or 435m/683kHz. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (46.3m). BBC Radio London 260m, 94.9 VHF.

5.35 Ivor the Engine: Oliver Postgate's story Half Crown.
5.40 News.
5.55 Nationwide.
6.55 Tomorrow's World: tonight's edition includes items on a model aircraft that can take soap, shock absorbing plastic, energy from cowshed manure and new hope for people with speech defects. Also, a Britain lagging in the space-rocket race.
7.20 Top of the Pops: pop music show, with Legs and Co and the Top of the Pops Orchestra.
7.55 Blankety Blank. Terry Wogan's pantheistic tonight are: Pat Coombe, Jack Douglas, Judy Geeson, Keith Harris, David Jacobs and Beryl Keir.
8.30 The Dawson Watch: Les Dawson finds jobs in education. I hope he finds better ones than he found last week in broadcasting.
9.00 News and Weather: with Peter Woodroffe.
9.25 Play for Today: Katie: The Year of a Child. Play by Ian

7.25 Newsweek: the world energy situation. Interviews with David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, and his "shadow", David Owen.
8.00 Maestros: last in the present series. A profile of Henry Cotton, the golfer who won three Open Championships. Now, he designs golf courses and does BBC TV commentaries.
8.30 Presenter: Story Without a Hero. First directing job by Mickey Dolez, one of the old "Monkeys" pop group. Maggie Wadley's (Ratcliffe) and young daughter who join up with some Hell's Angels for a very sound reason.
9.00 Kelly Monthetti: American comedian in a British-made (by

Connection. James Bolan as the writer whose wife vanishes.
2.00 After Noon Pops: highlights from the Cambridge Footlights Revue, and news review of the decade by Anthony Howard and Peregrine Worsthorne.
2.45 London Belongs to Me: the Norman Collins book, serialized. Today: the first chapter. The blurb for his Dalcme Street.
3.45 Looks Familiar: Show business quiz, with Denis Norden as the world of the spider.
4.15 Project UFO: drama series. Today: The Pipeline Incident.
5.15 Mr and Mrs: matrimonial quiz game.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Help! What St Mungo's does for the homeless and rootless.
6.35 Crossroads: Alison defies her uncle.

7.00 Britain's Strongest Man: Highlights of tonight's contest will be the tug-of-war.
7.30 Charlie's Angels: girls' war against crime. Machine-made American series.
8.30 TV Eye: Uganda, after Amin. The disastrous state the country is in. Includes an interview with Major Bob Astles, Amin's former adviser, now awaiting trial.
9.00 Fallen Hero: continuing story of a former Rugby League player. Tonight: someone is going to die.
10.00 News.
10.30 Thames Report: Patients' grievances about London hospitals.
11.00 The Streets of San Francisco: crime series. Did a wife-beater also murder her?
12.00 What the Papers Say: review by Paul Foot.
12.15 Close. Poetry readings by Kenneth Connor.

Cullen and John Norton, about a 14-year-old Dublin girl who has to care for an ailing mother and nine brothers and sisters (see Personal Choice).
10.35 International Show Jumping: Show jumping debut by the Prince of Wales, leading his team of polo players against Captain Mark Phillips's eventers. There is also the Norfolk Union Turkey Stakes, with Gerd Wulfing, world and European champion, competing.
11.15 platform One: Frank Chapman, general secretary of the Electricians' Union, is interviewed by Donald MacCormick.
11.45 News and weather.

Regions

BBC 1. VARIATIONS: Wales: 5.55 pm Wales Today. 6.55 Reddy. 7.15 The Children's Hour. 7.20 News. 7.30 Top of the Pops. 7.55 Blankety Blank. 8.30 The Dawson Watch. 9.00 News. 9.25 Play for Today. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 Top of the Pops. 10.35 International Show Jumping. 11.15 platform One. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 Close. Scotland: 5.55 pm News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 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